



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



# Van der Waals Interactions in Molecules and Condensed Matter

(Including Semiconductors with Defects)

Alexandre Tkatchenko

*Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft,  
Berlin, Germany*

IPAM MDWS1, October 4, 2012



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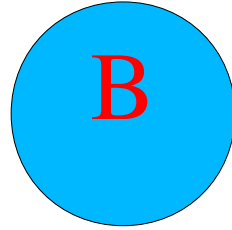
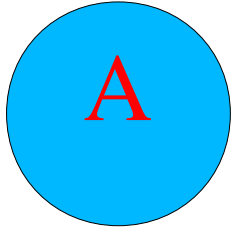
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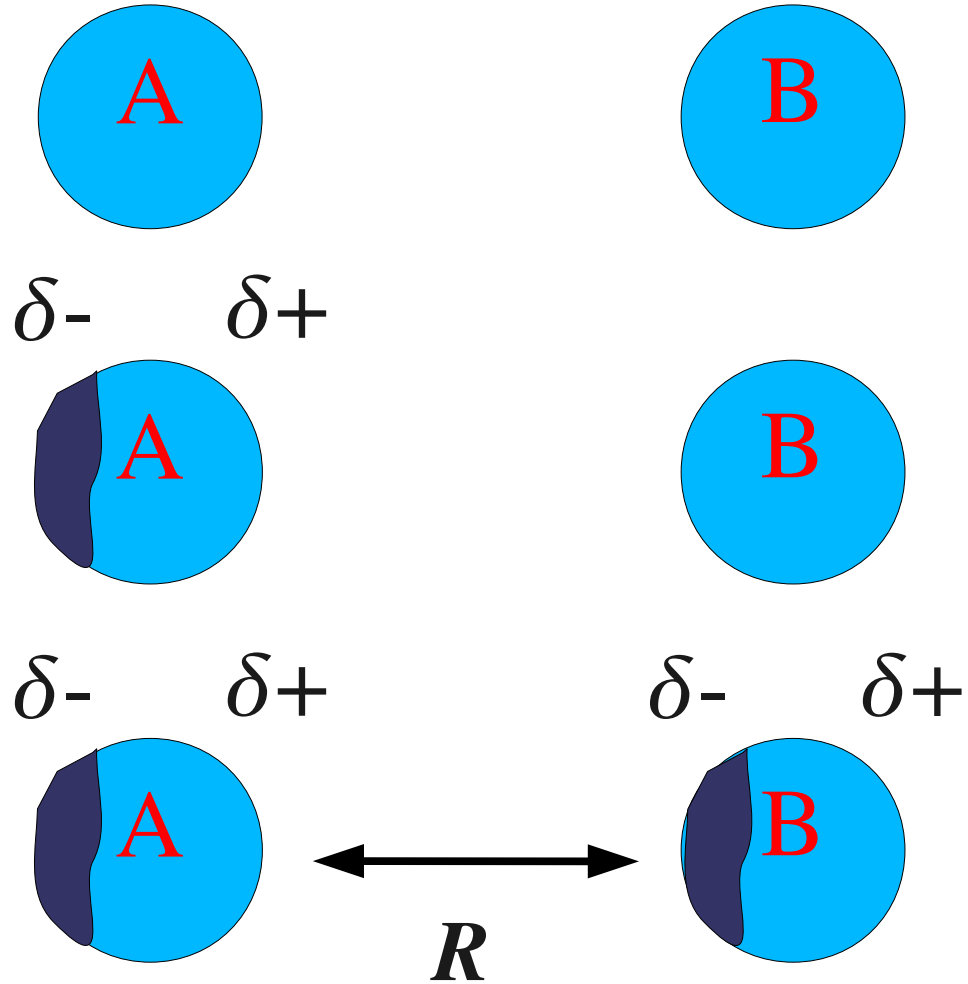
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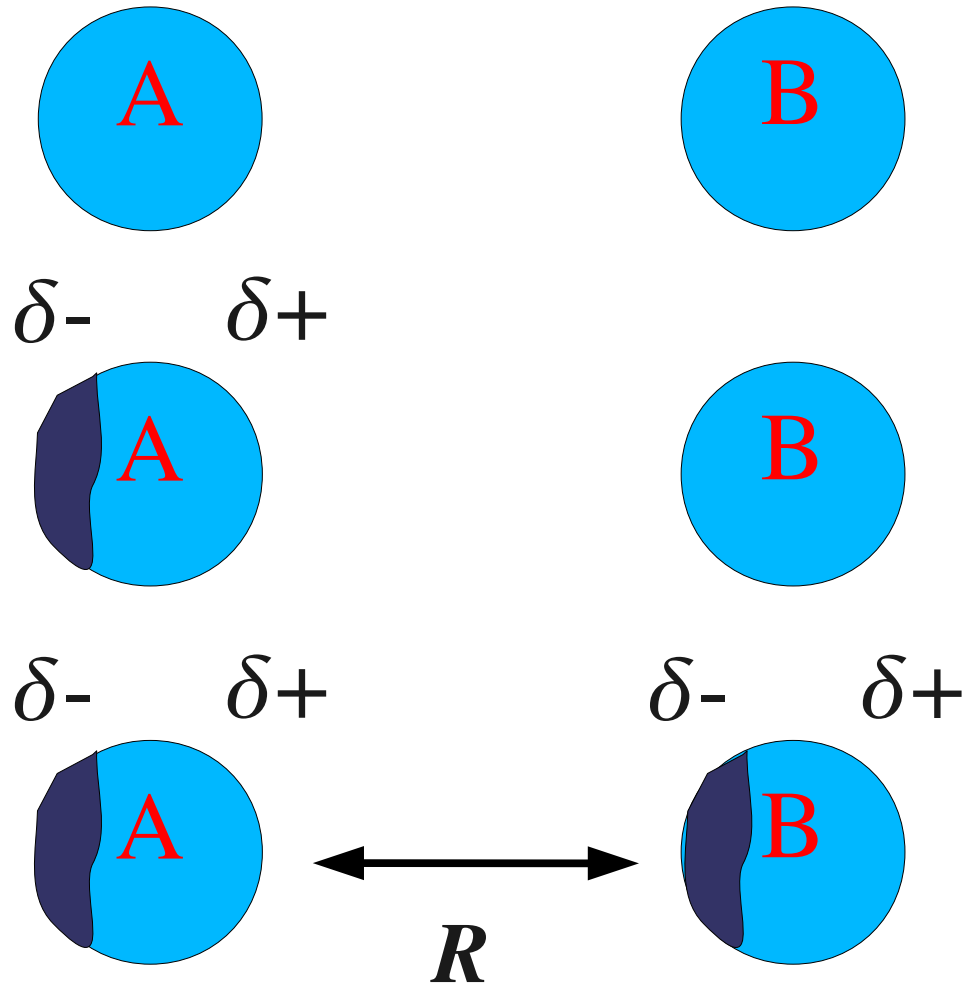
# Van der Waals (dispersion) energy



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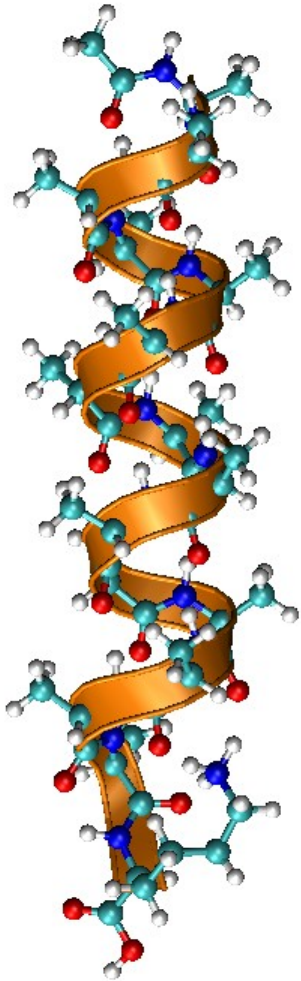
- Ubiquitous interatomic and intermolecular interaction
  - Scales linearly with system size
  - Weak compared to hydrogen or covalent bonds
- ... **but** is a significant component of *binding energies* !

$$E^{disp}(R) = - \left( f_6(R) \frac{C_6}{R^6} + f_8(R) \frac{C_8}{R^8} + f_{10}(R) \frac{C_{10}}{R^{10}} + \dots \right)$$

**Van der Waals Interactions:**  
*Are They Weak?*

# Van der Waals Interactions: *Are They Weak?*

## Polyalanine (Ala<sub>15</sub>LysH<sup>+</sup>) *in vacuo*



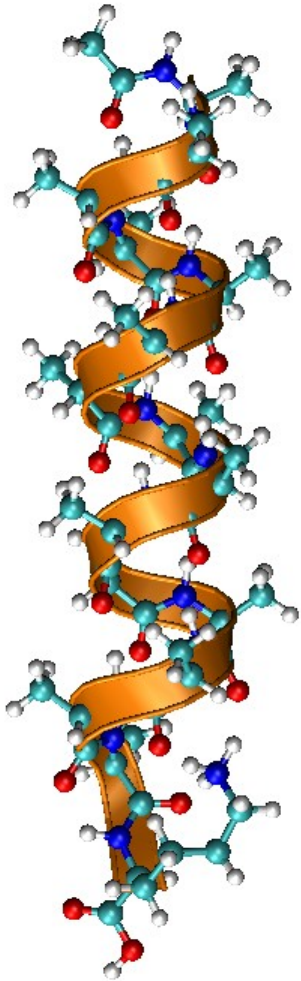
- ✓ Experiment predicts a stable  $\alpha$ -helical form up to 725 K

*M. F. Jarrold et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. (1999);  
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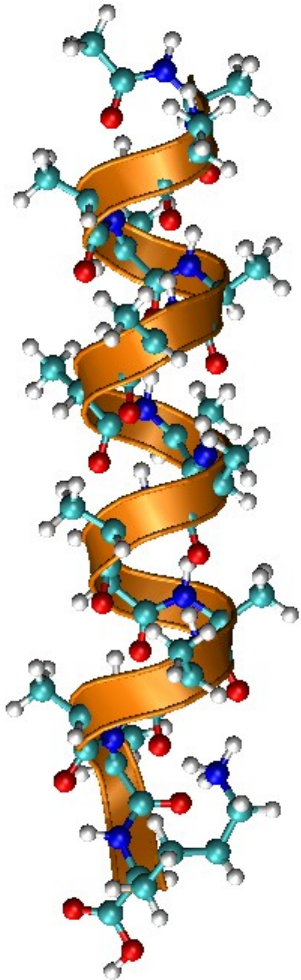
- ✓ Experiment predicts a stable  $\alpha$ -helical form up to 725 K
- ✓ Without vdW (DFT-PBE) it converts to a  $3_{10}$  helix at  $\sim 300$  K

*A. Tkatchenko, M. Rossi, V. Blum, J. Ireta, M. Scheffler,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. (2011).*



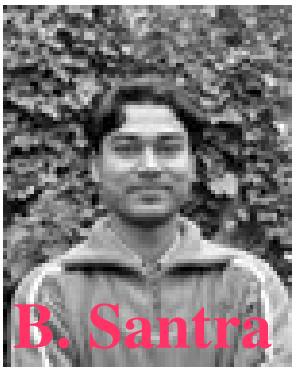
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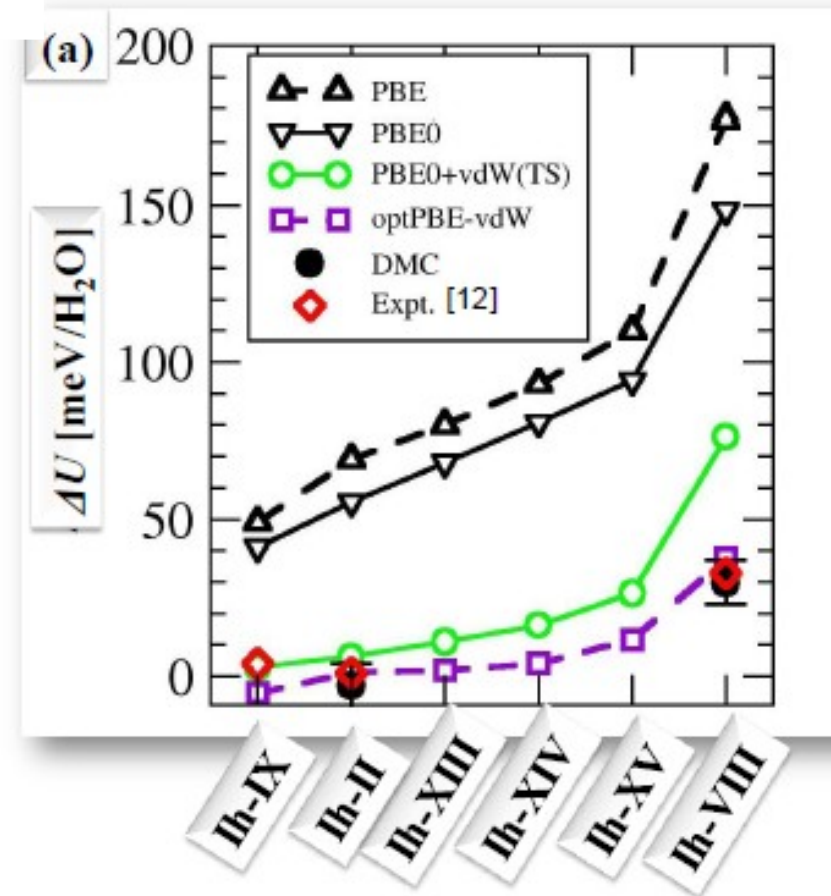
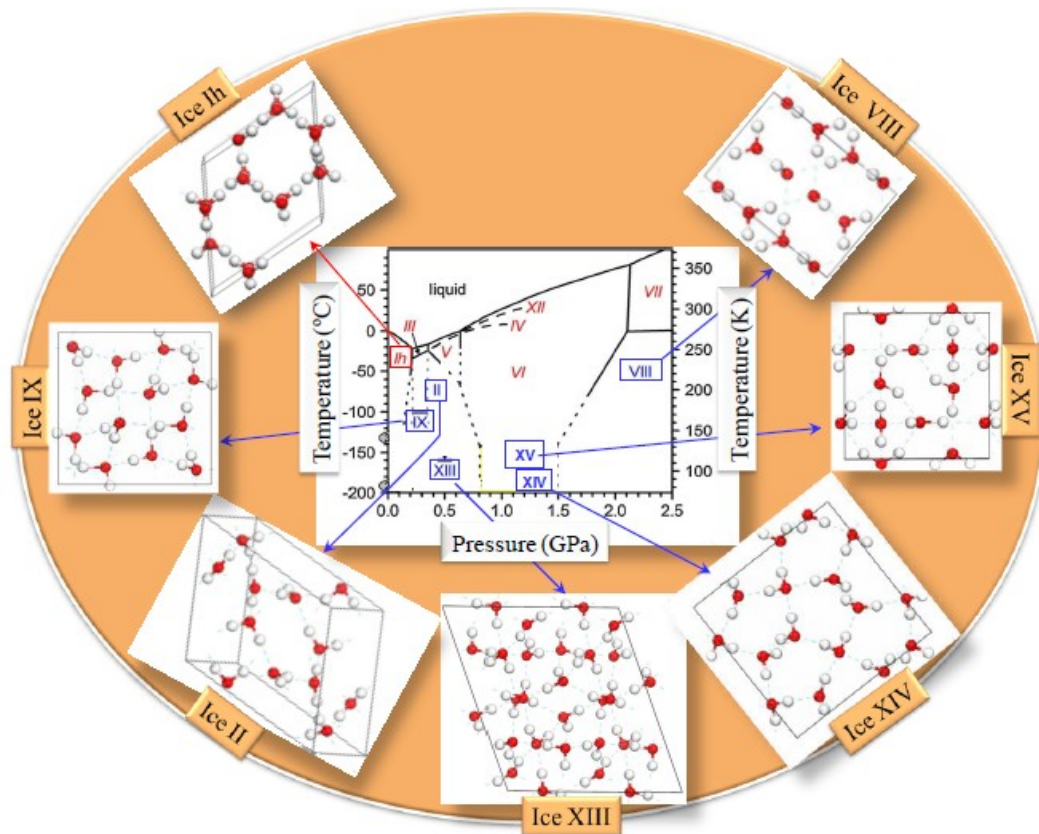
- ✓ Experiment predicts a stable  $\alpha$ -helical form up to 725 K
- ✓ Without vdW (DFT-PBE) it converts to a  $3_{10}$  helix at  $\sim 300$  K
- ✓ With vdW (DFT-PBE+vdW) the  $\alpha$ -helical-like form is stable up to 700 K, in agreement with experiment
- ✓ The vdW energy contributes  $\sim 7$  kcal/mol (0.3 eV) per residue!

*A. Tkatchenko, M. Rossi, V. Blum, J. Ireta, M. Scheffler, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2011).*



# Van der Waals Interactions: *Are They Weak?*

## Ice at ambient and high pressures



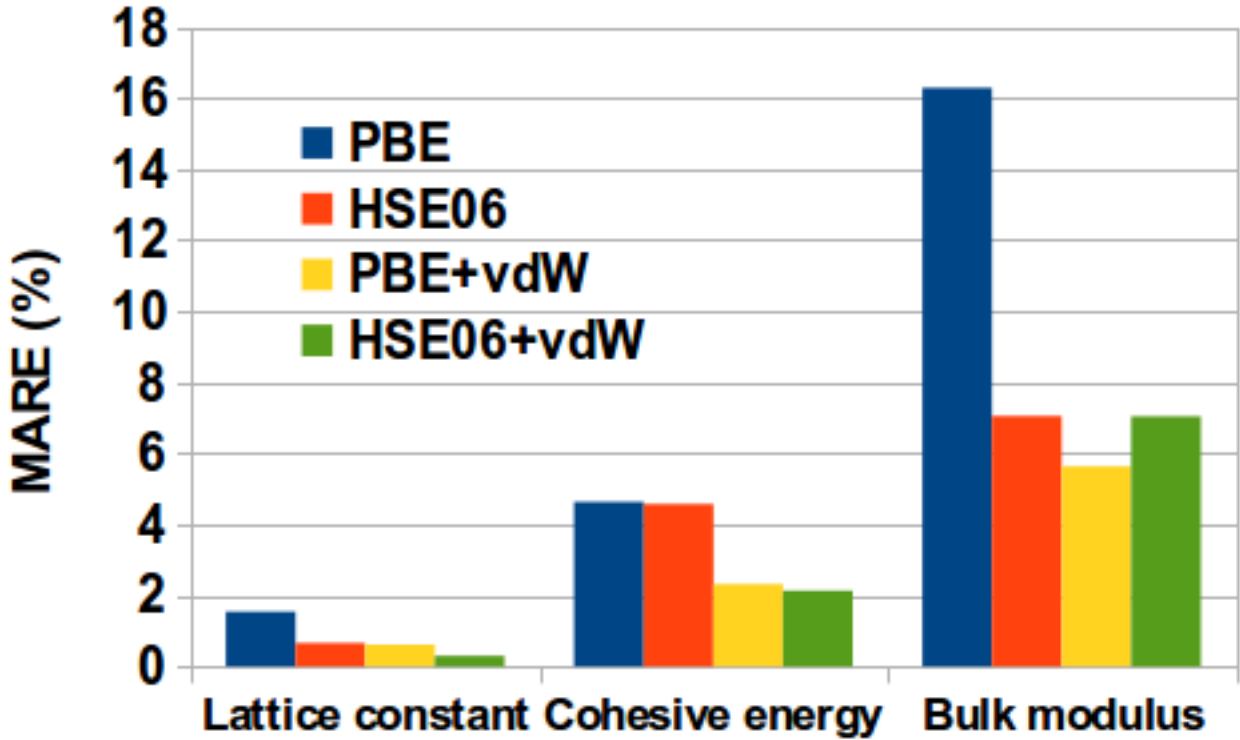
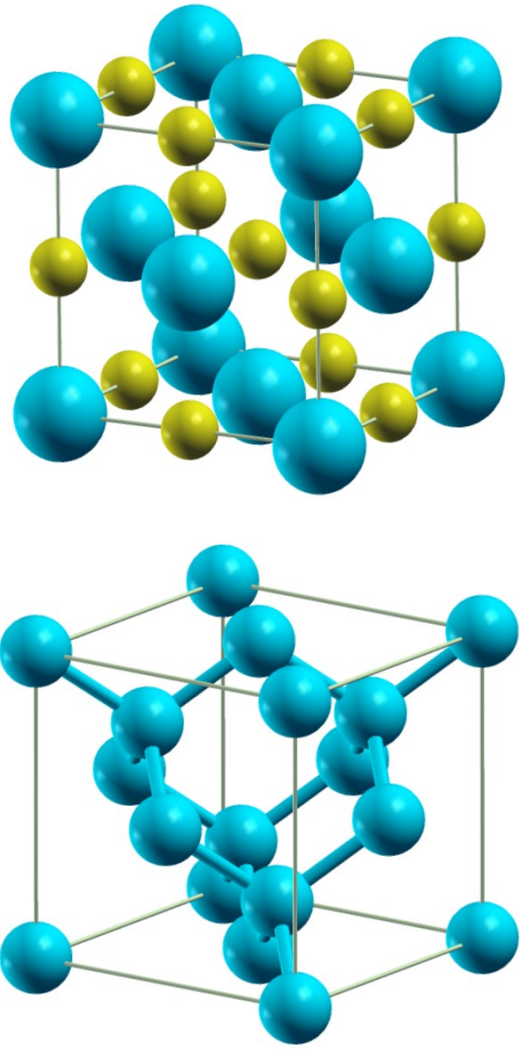
*B. Santra, J. Klimes, D. Alfe, A. Tkatchenko, B. Slater, A. Michaelides, R. Car, M. Scheffler, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2011).*



G.X. Zhang

# Van der Waals Interactions: *Are They Weak?*

## Semiconductors and ionic solids

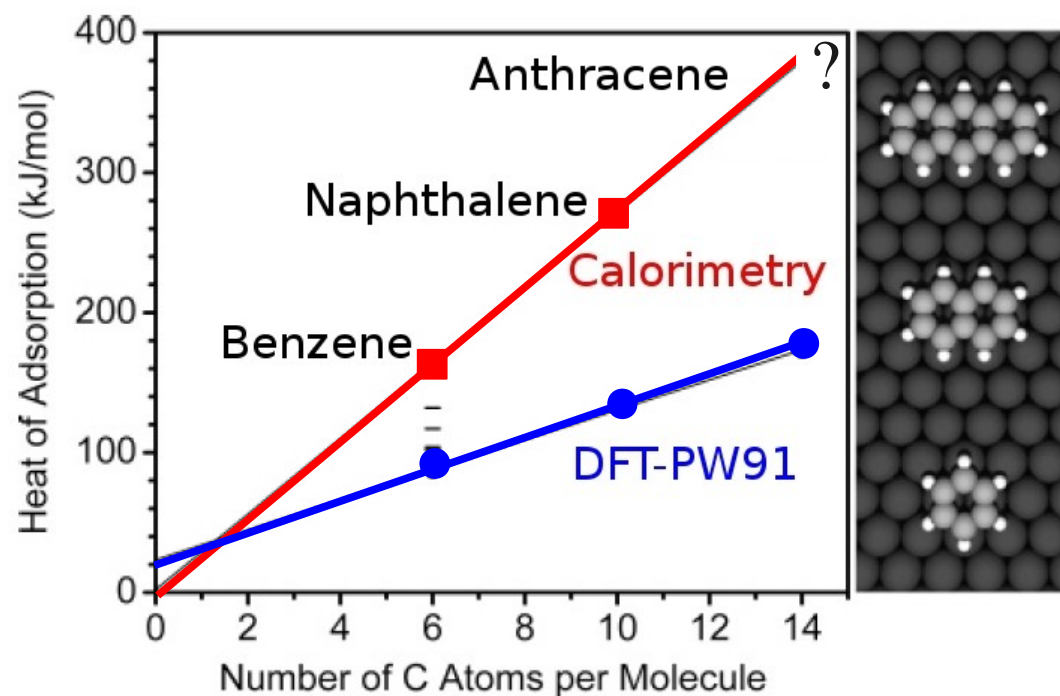
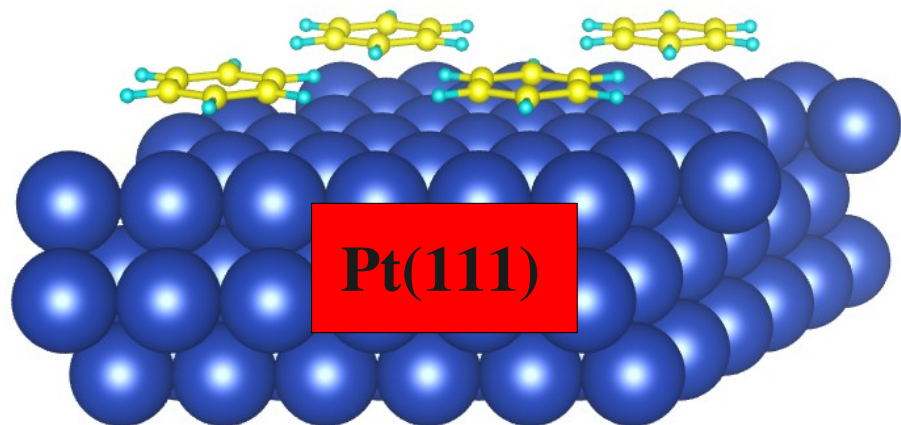


The vdW energy contributes 0.2-0.3 eV/atom to the cohesive energy, 3-17 GPa to the bulk modulus, and 0.01-0.15 Å to the lattice constant

G.-X. Zhang, A. Tkatchenko, J. Paier, H. Appel, M. Scheffler, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2011).

# Van der Waals Interactions: *Are They Weak?*

**Are van der Waals interactions important for chemisorption ?**

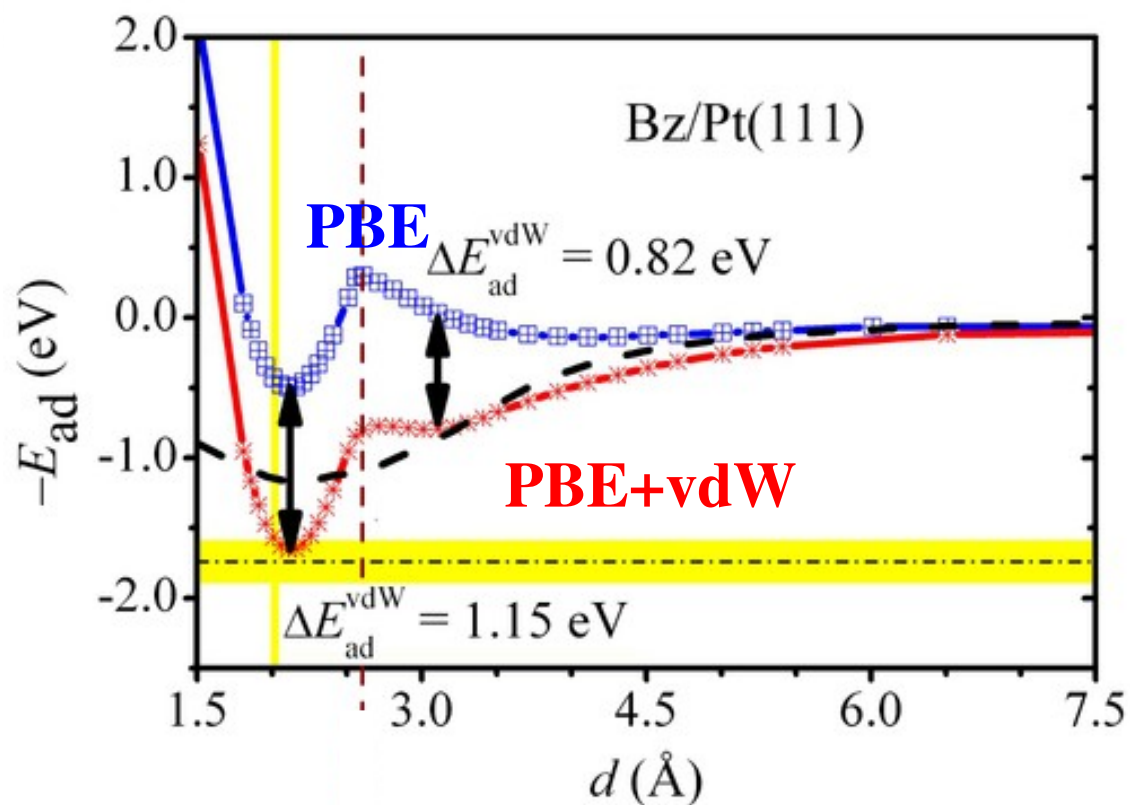
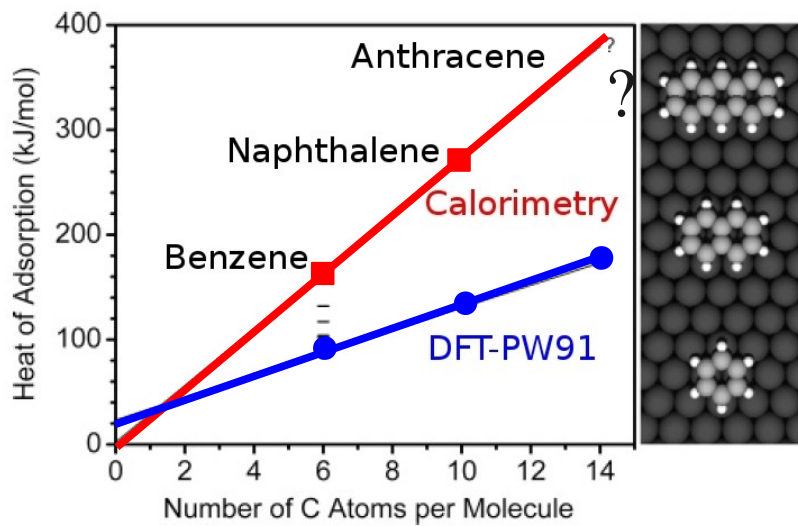
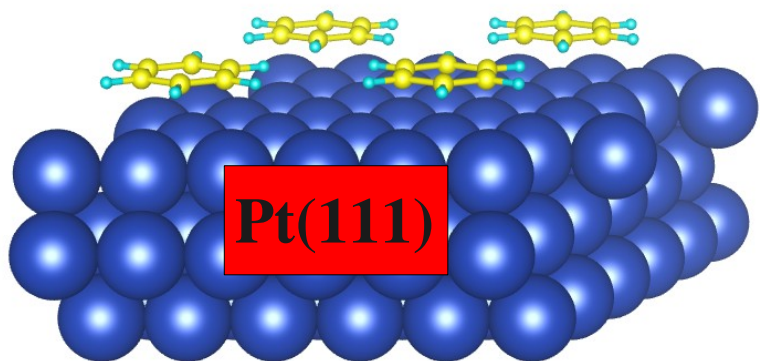




# Van der Waals Interactions: *Are They Weak?*



Van der Waals interactions are crucial *even* for chemisorption



V. Ruiz, W. Liu, E. Zojer, M. Scheffler, and A. Tkatchenko, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012);  
W. Liu et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, submitted (2012).

# Current state-of-the-art of atomistic modeling

$$H\Psi = E\Psi$$

Full  
CI

Wavefunction  
based methods  
(MP2, RPA, CCSD(T),...)

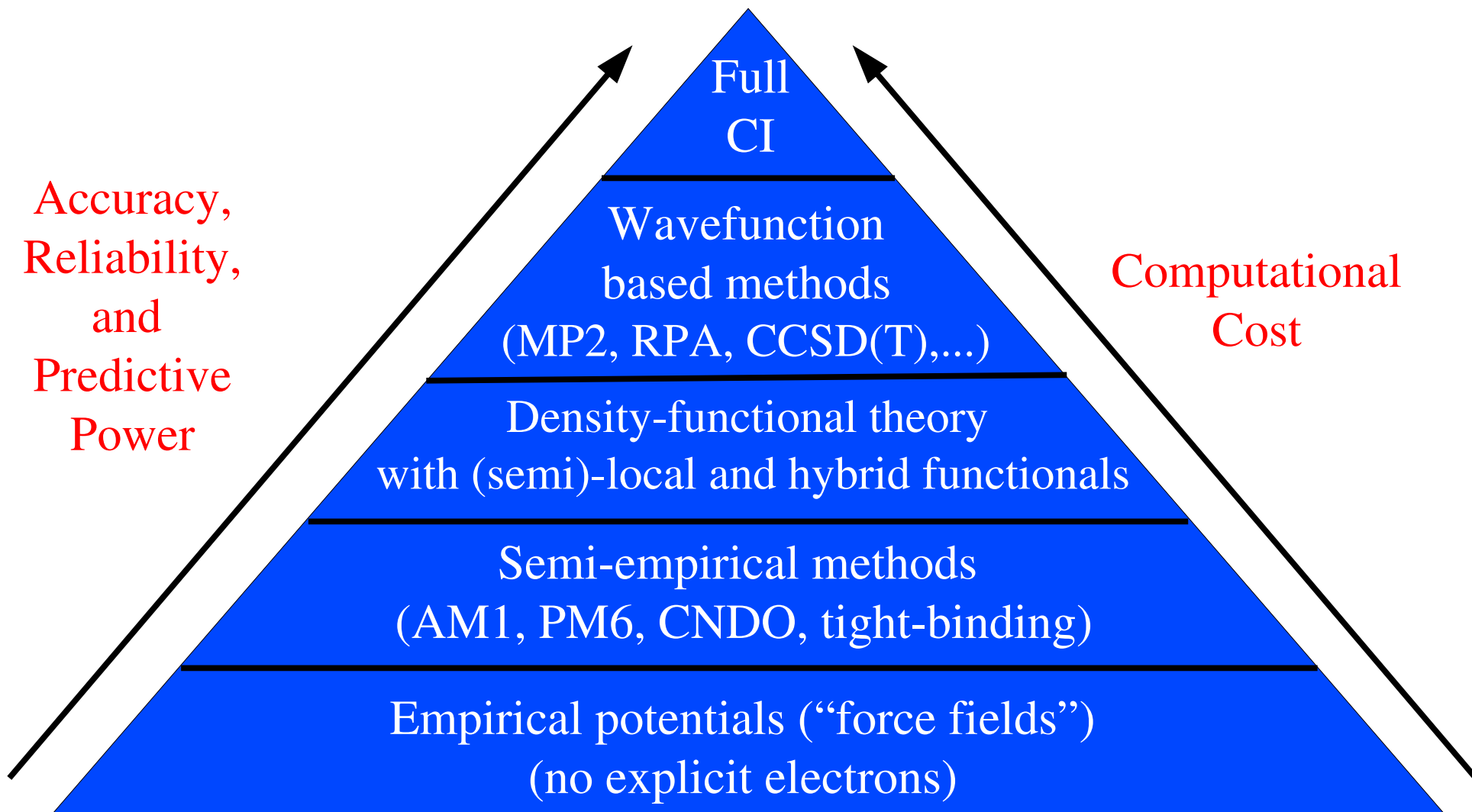
Density-functional theory  
with (semi)-local and hybrid functionals

Semi-empirical methods  
(AM1, PM6, CNDO, tight-binding)

Empirical potentials (“force fields”)  
(no explicit electrons)

Accuracy,  
Reliability,  
and  
Predictive  
Power

Computational  
Cost



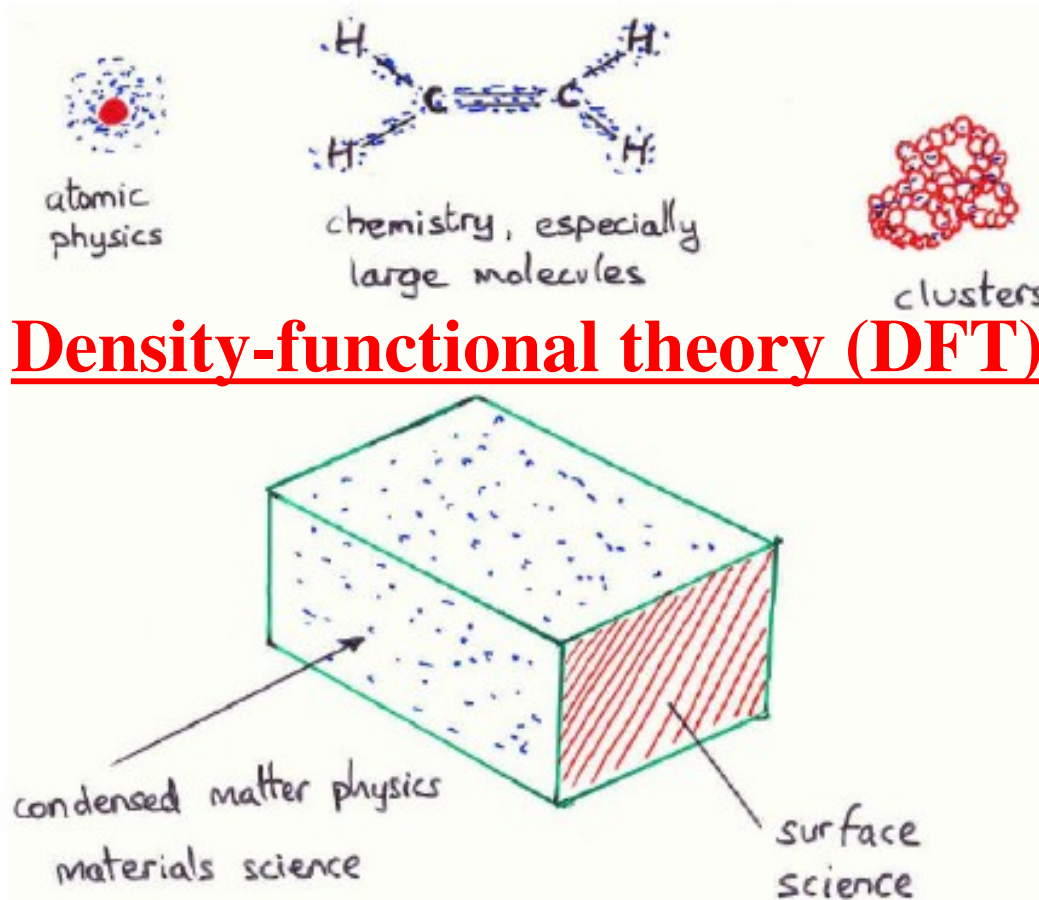
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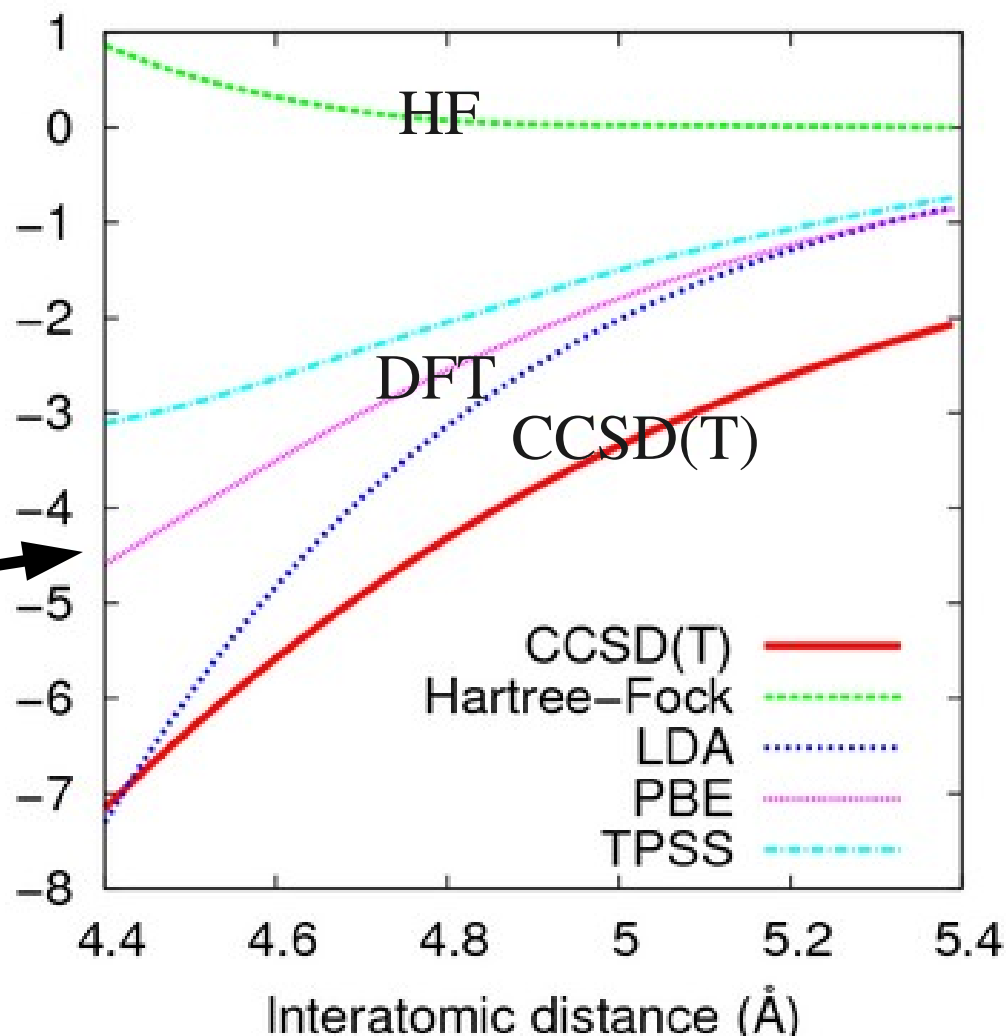
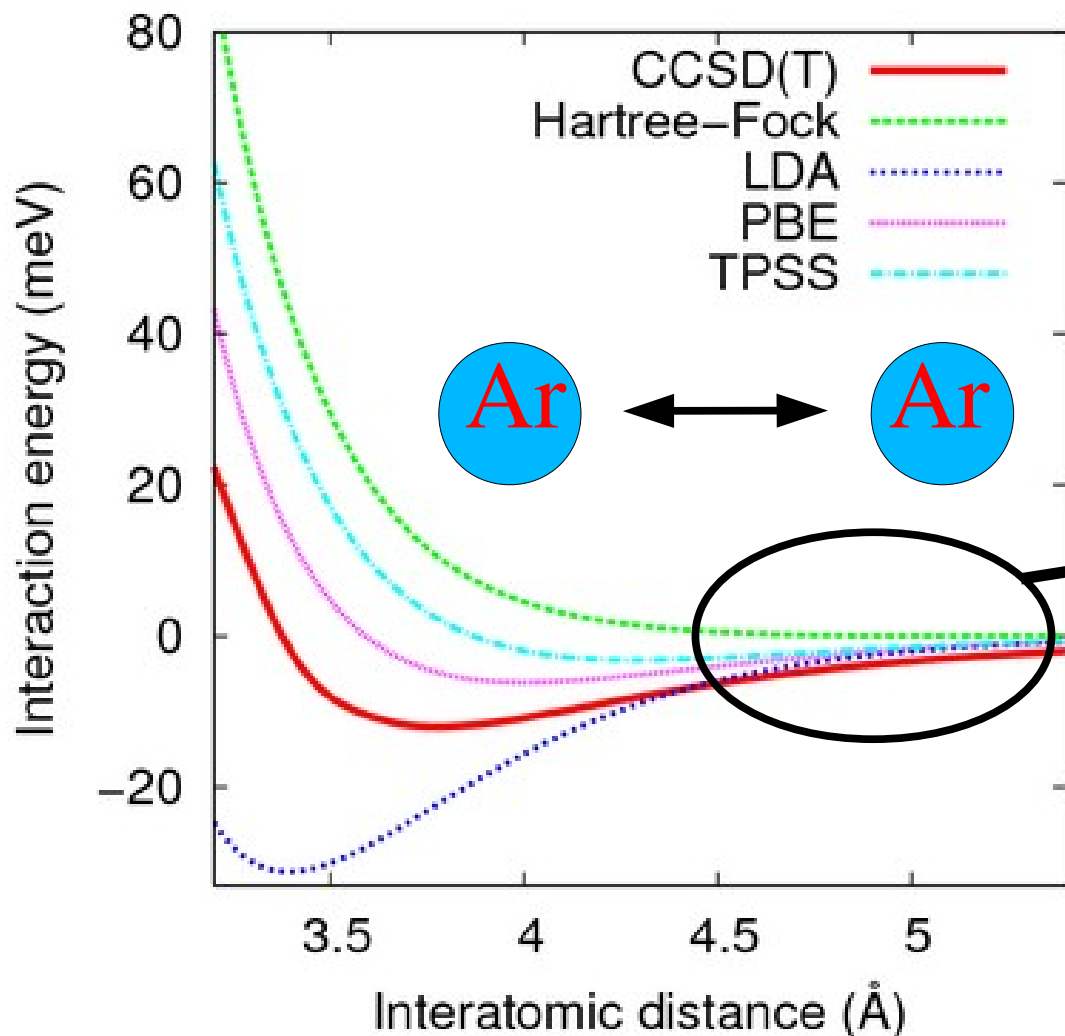
Computational  
Cost



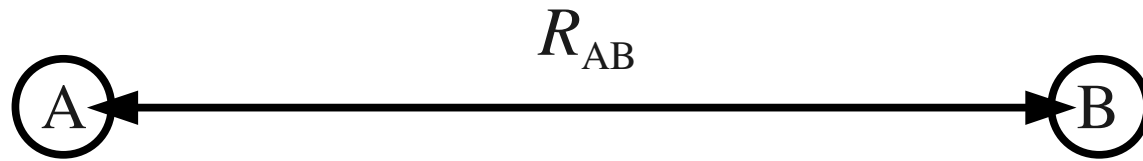
K. Burke, IPAM, 2011

# DFT and vdW interaction: Rare-gas dimers

$$E^{disp}(R) = - \left( f_6(R) \frac{C_6}{R^6} + f_8(R) \frac{C_8}{R^8} + f_{10}(R) \frac{C_{10}}{R^{10}} + \dots \right)$$



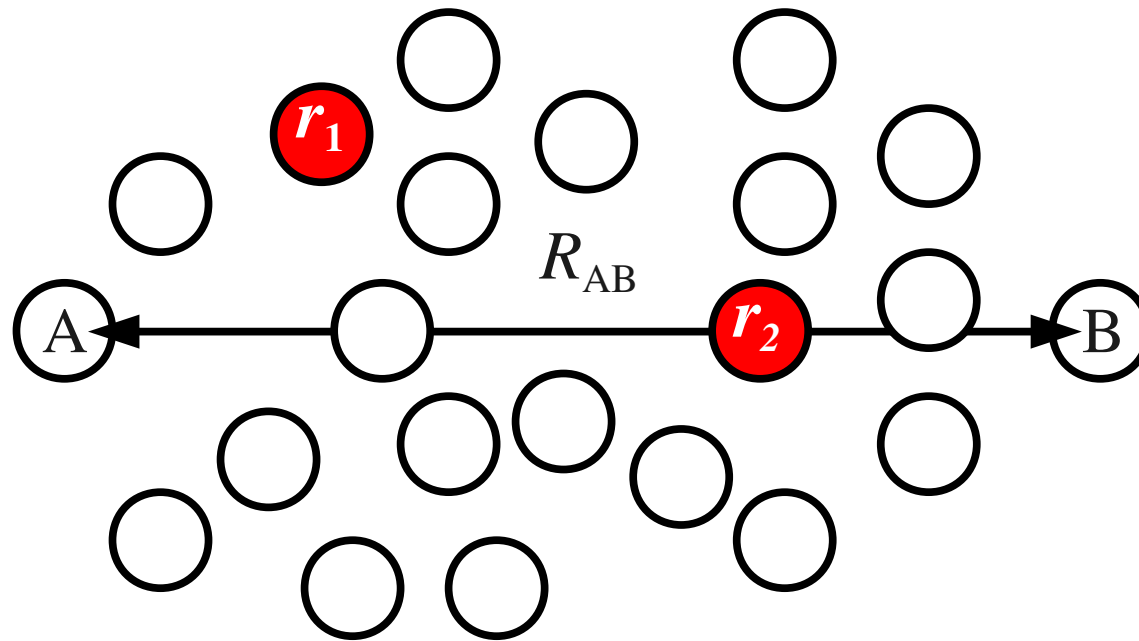
# Accurate *First-Principles* Modeling of vdW Interactions is Challenging



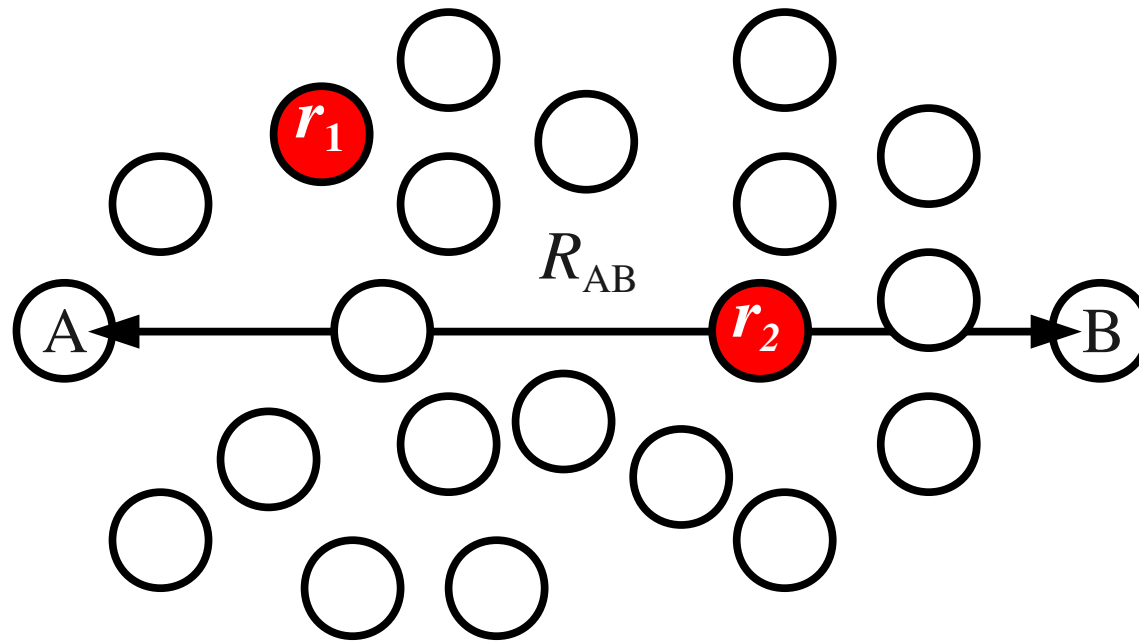
$$E_{\text{vdW}}^{(2)} = -\frac{C_6^{\text{AB}}}{R_{\text{AB}}^6}$$

$$C_6^{\text{AB}} = \frac{3}{\pi} \int \alpha_A(i\omega) \alpha_B(i\omega) d\omega$$

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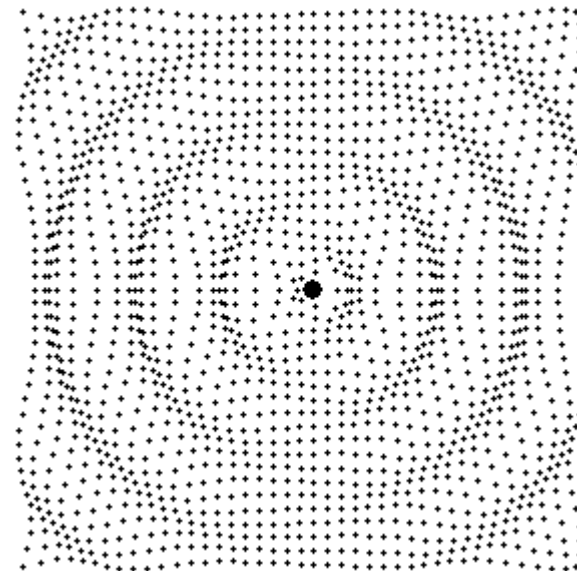
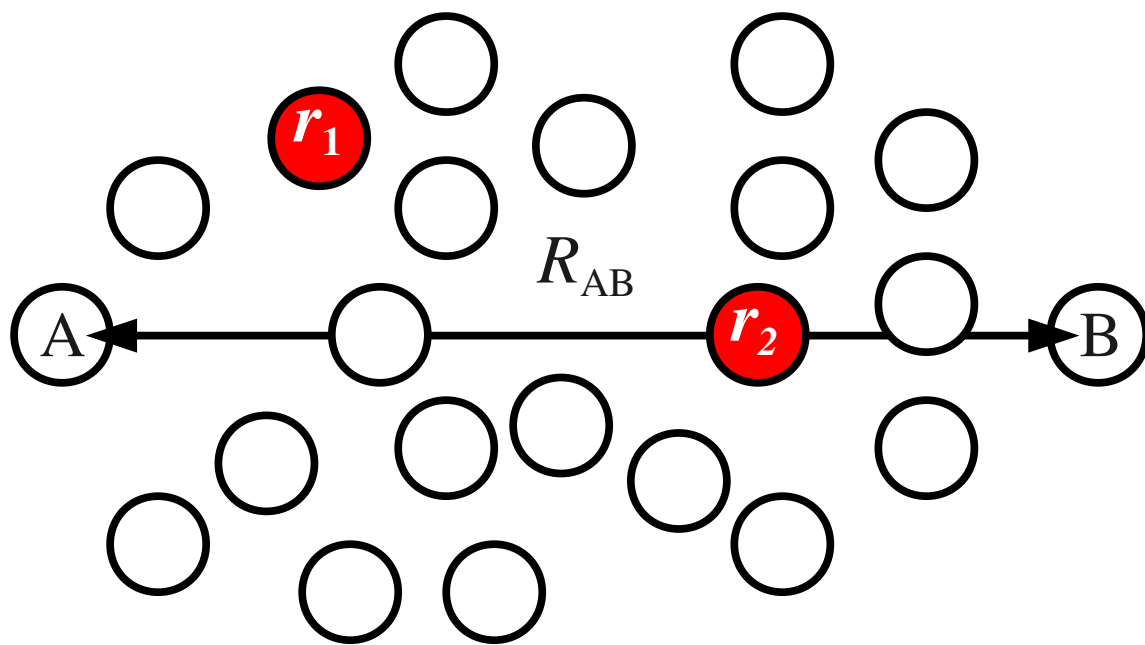
$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( (\chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega)) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

ACFDT: Adiabatic connection fluctuation-dissipation theorem

*O. Gunnarsson and B. I. Lundqvist, Phys. Rev. B (1976);*

*D. C. Langreth and J. P. Perdew, Phys. Rev. B (1977).*

# Accurate *First-Principles* Modeling of vdW Interactions is Challenging



<http://www.acs.psu.edu/drussell/Demos/forkanim/forkanim.html>

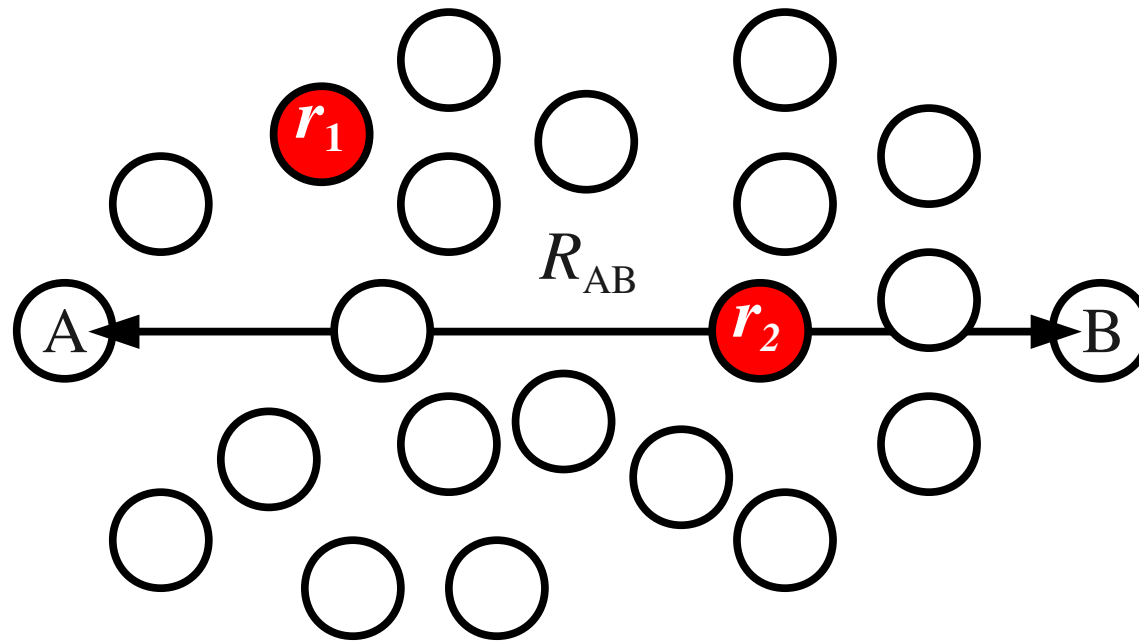
$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( \left( \chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) \right) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

ACFDT: Adiabatic connection fluctuation-dissipation theorem

# Accurate *First-Principles* Modeling of vdW Interactions is Challenging

1

Accurate  
Microscopic  
Modeling of  
Coulomb  
Screening



2

Full (All-Order)  
Many-Body  
van der Waals  
Energy

$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( (\chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega)) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

# (Approximate) concepts and methods for dispersion in DFT

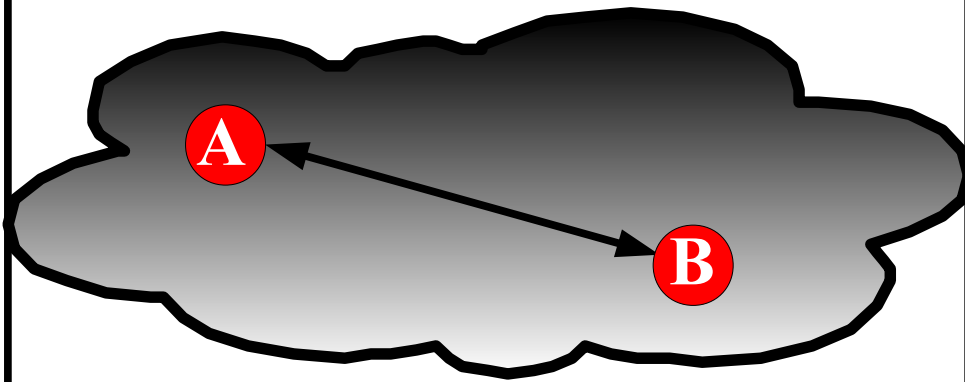
$$E_{xc} = E_{ex}^{\text{GGA or EX}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{LDA,GGA}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}$$

- Non-local functionals (depend explicitly on  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{r}'$ ) (*Langreth, Lundqvist et al.*).
- Modified pseudopotentials (*von Lilienfeld et al.*)
- Highly empirical (hybrid) meta-GGA functionals (*Truhlar et al.*)
- Interatomic (pairwise or beyond) dispersion corrections (Many people)

*Wu and Yang JCP (2002); Grimme J. Comp. Chem. (2004,2006); Dion et al. PRL (2004); Zhao and Truhlar JCP (2006); von Lilienfeld et al. PRL (2004); Johnson and Becke JCP (2005-2007); Tkatchenko and Scheffler PRL (2009); and many others ...*

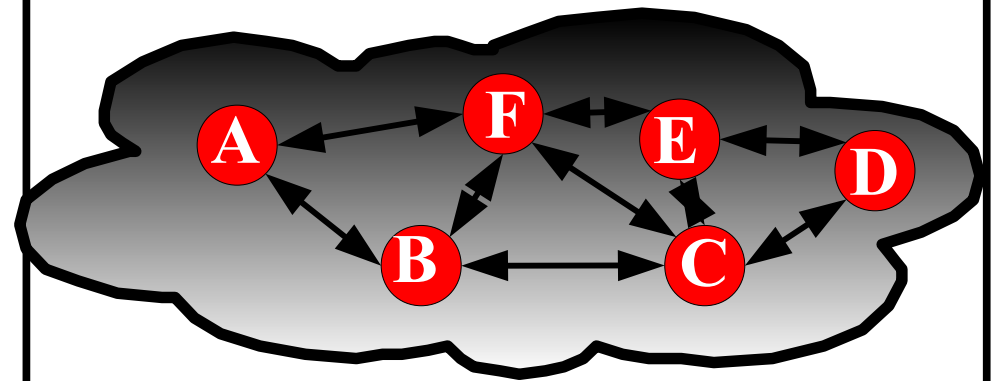
# Towards Efficient Many-Body Treatment of vdW Interactions

The current state-of-the-art  
(*Grimme, Becke, Tkatchenko/Scheffler, Langreth/Lundqvist, ...*):  
Effective screening and  
two-body energy



Valid for  
small molecules *or*  
homogeneous dielectrics

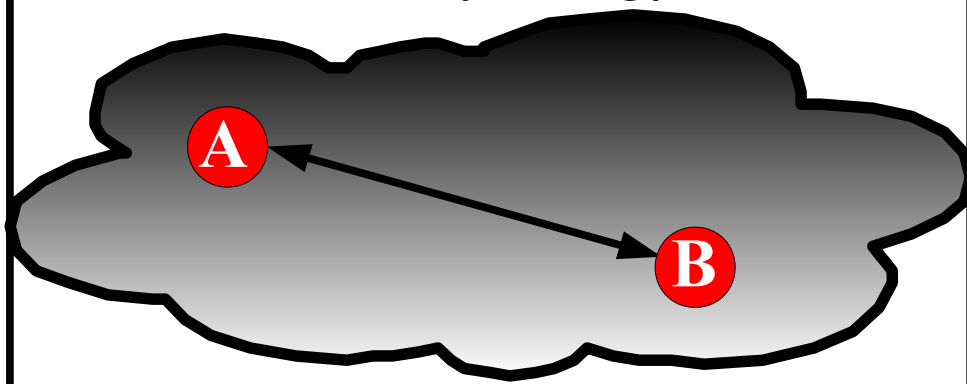
The new state-of-the-art:  
Full many-body screening  
and energy for a system of  
quantum oscillators



Valid for small and large  
molecules, insulators, metals,  
interfaces, ...

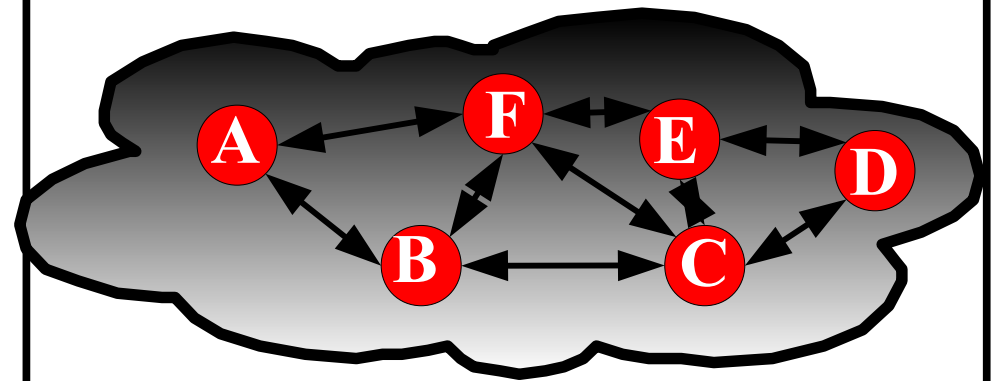
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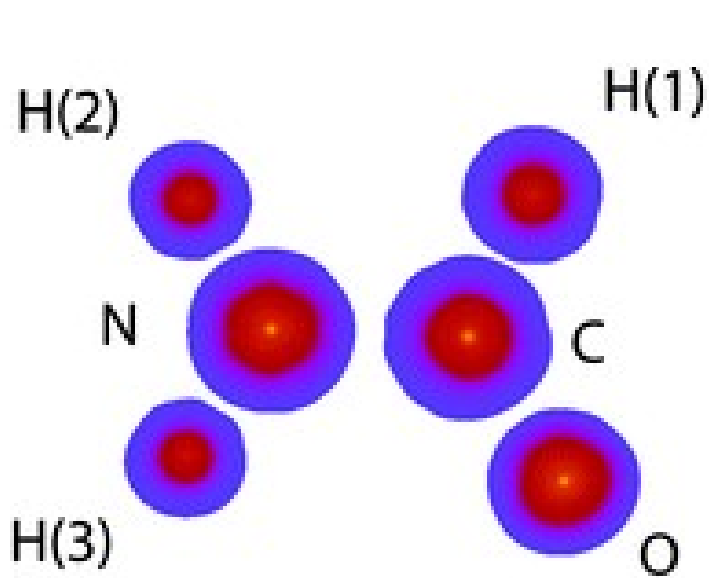
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\* A. Tkatchenko, R. A. DiStasio Jr., R. Car, M. Scheffler, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012).  
Related work: B. J. Berne, G. Martyna, A. Donchev, M. W. Cole, K. Jordan, et al.

# TS-vdW method: Atomic vdW parameters from first principles

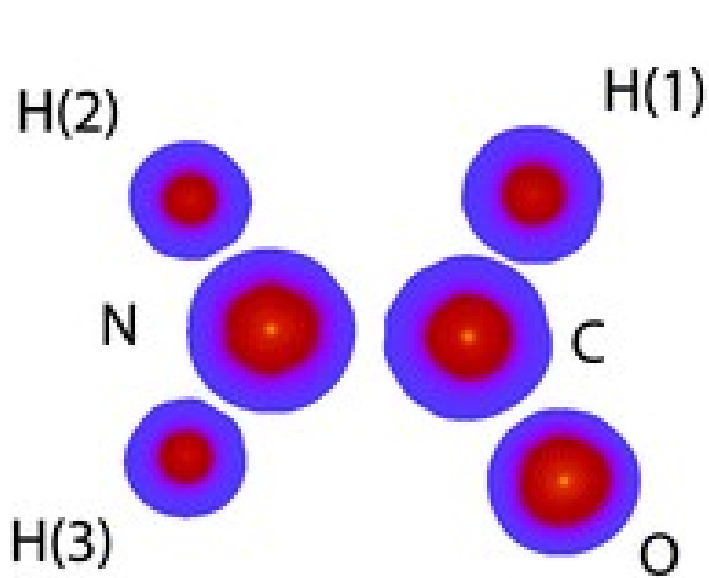


$$\alpha_A^0 = \alpha_A^0[n(\mathbf{r})]; \quad \omega_A^0 = \omega_A^0[n(\mathbf{r})]$$

$$\alpha_A(i\omega) = \frac{\alpha_A^0}{1 + (\omega/\omega_A^0)^2}$$

$\alpha^0$  and  $\omega^0$  include short-range screening

# TS-vdW method: Atomic vdW parameters from first principles



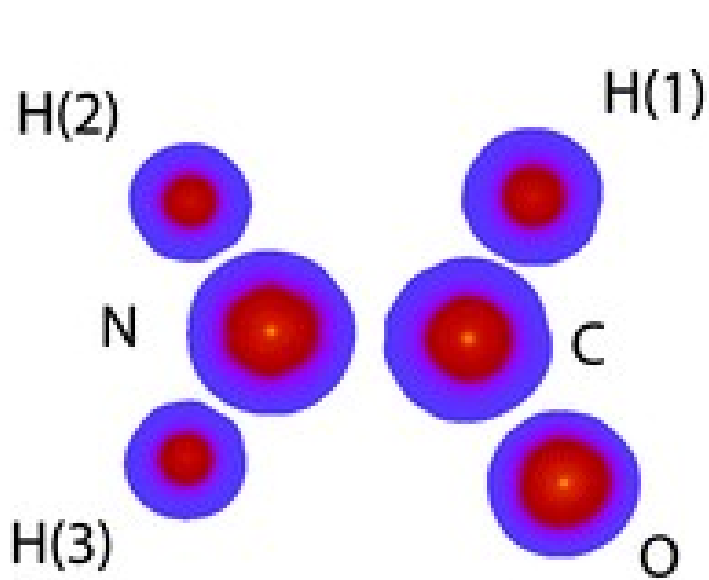
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$\alpha^0$  and  $\omega^0$  include short-range screening

$$C_6 = C_6[n(\mathbf{r})], \quad R_{\text{vdW}} = R_{\text{vdW}}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$

# TS-vdW method: Atomic vdW parameters from first principles



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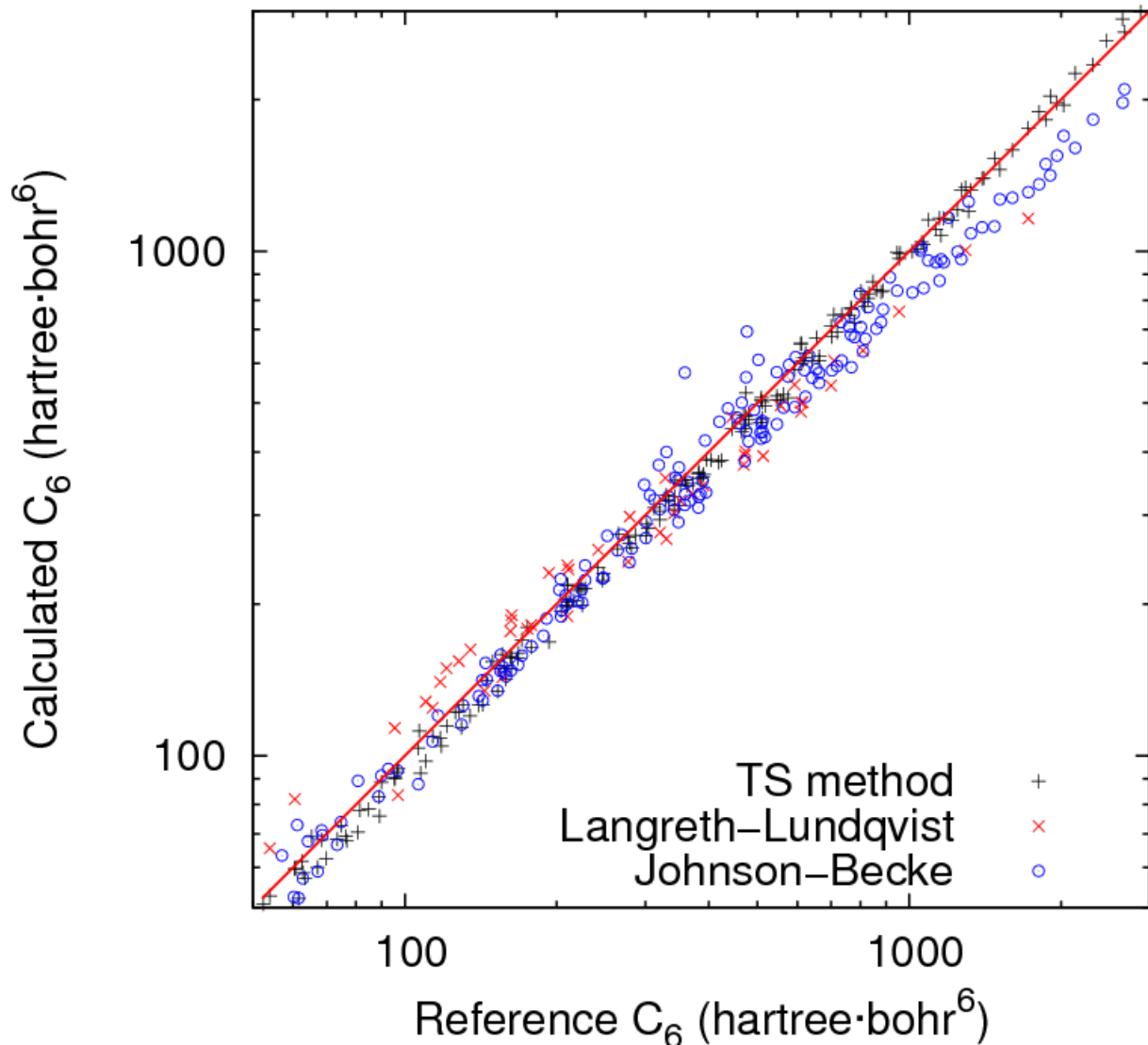
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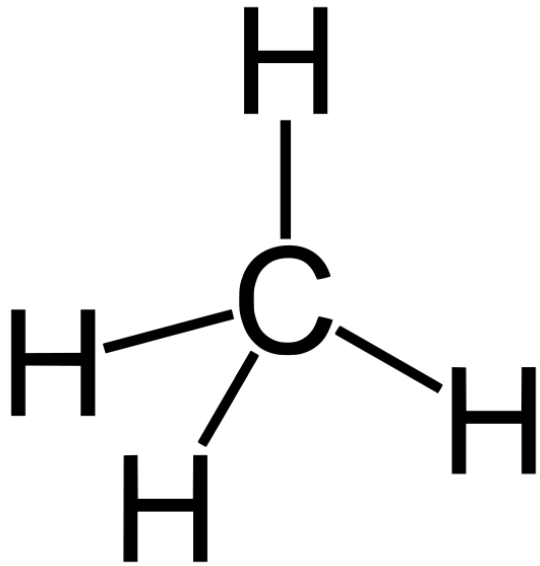
Only 1 training parameter coupling DFT and vdW:  
*scaling of the vdW radius*

# Performance of TS-vdW method for molecules



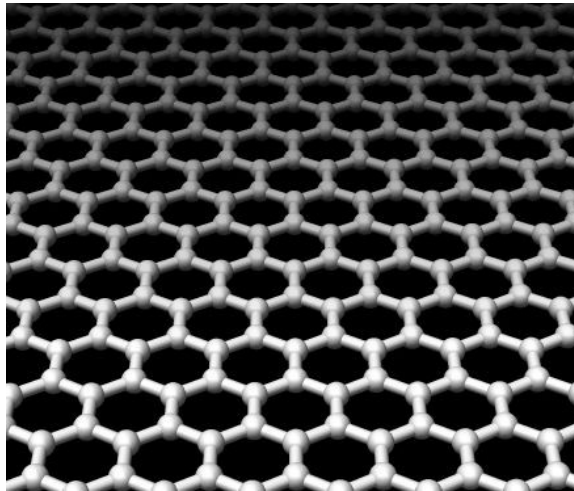
**Mean absolute error of 5.5%** for **1225** molecular  $C_6$  from reference DOSD data of *W. J. Meath et al.*

$C_6$  is a **functional** of the electron density  
(Carbon-Carbon  $C_6$  coefficient / HartreeBohr<sup>6</sup>)



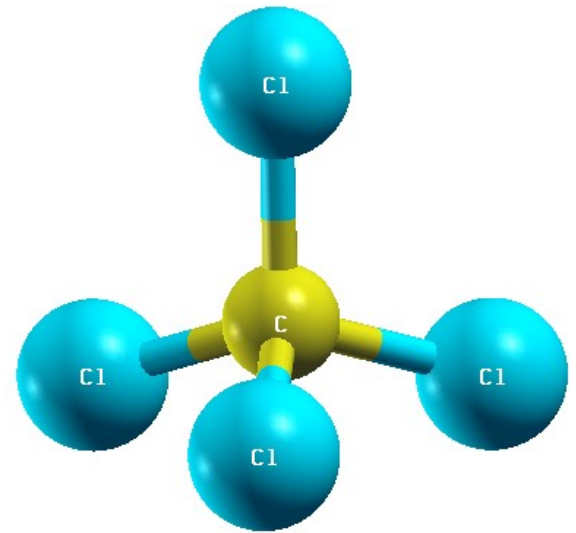
**24.1**

*sp*<sup>3</sup>



**33.0**

*sp*<sup>2</sup>

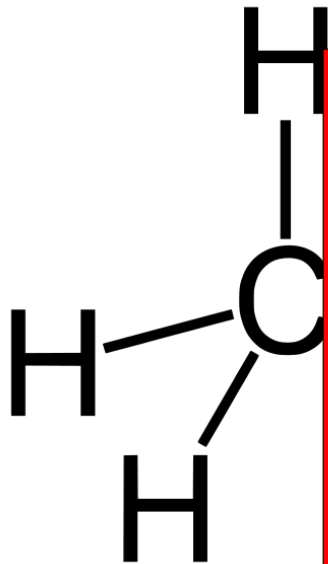


**43.1**

*sp*<sup>3</sup>

# $C_6$ is a functional of the electron density

(Carbon-Carbon  $C_6$  coefficient / HartreeBohr<sup>6</sup>)



24.1

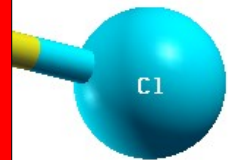
$sp^3$

Charge transfer, different oxidation states, complex electronic situations lead to even more dramatic changes in vdW parameters.

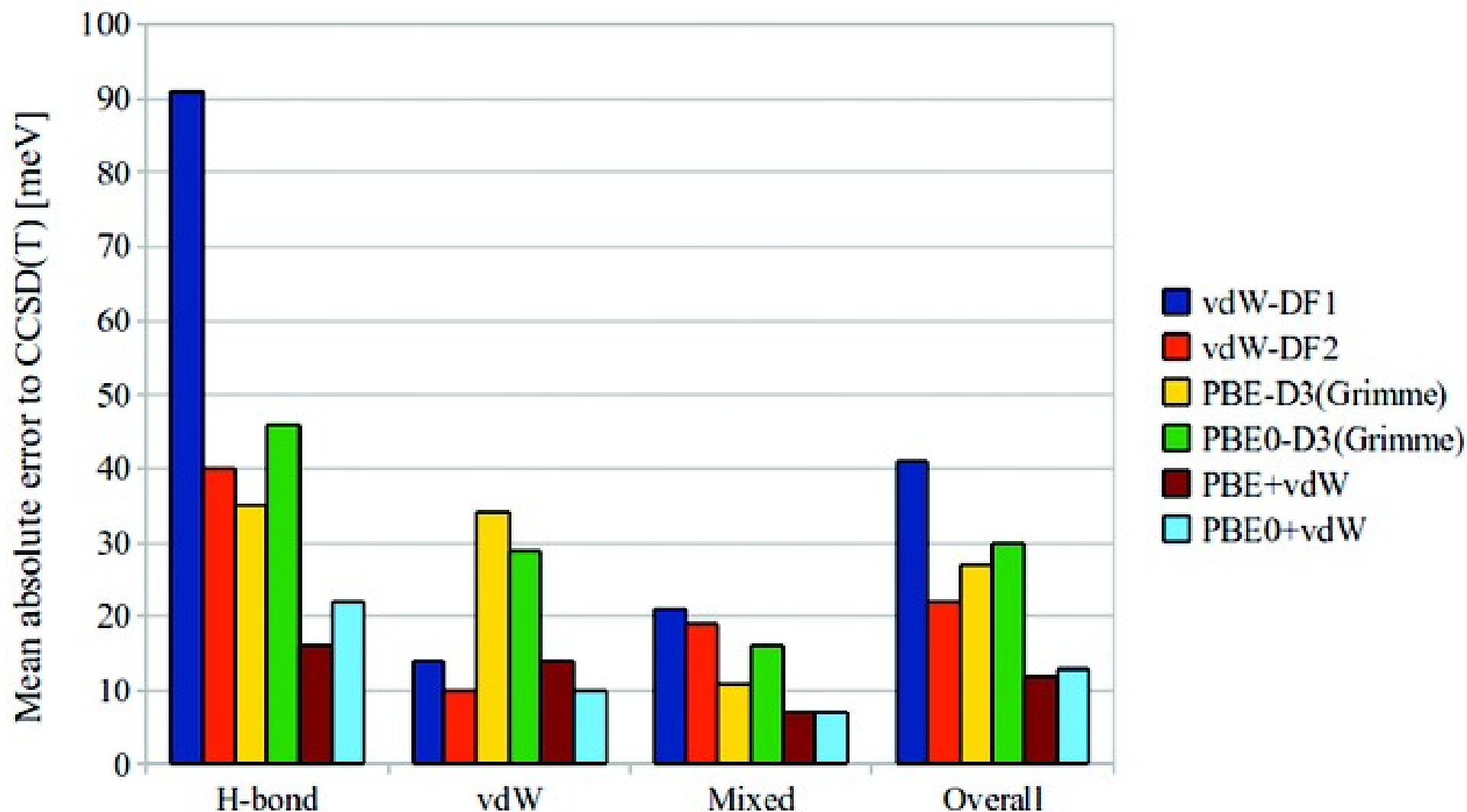
Empirical methods (*Grimme et al.*) miss these effects completely and do not yield accurate vdW energies.

$sp^2$

$sp^3$

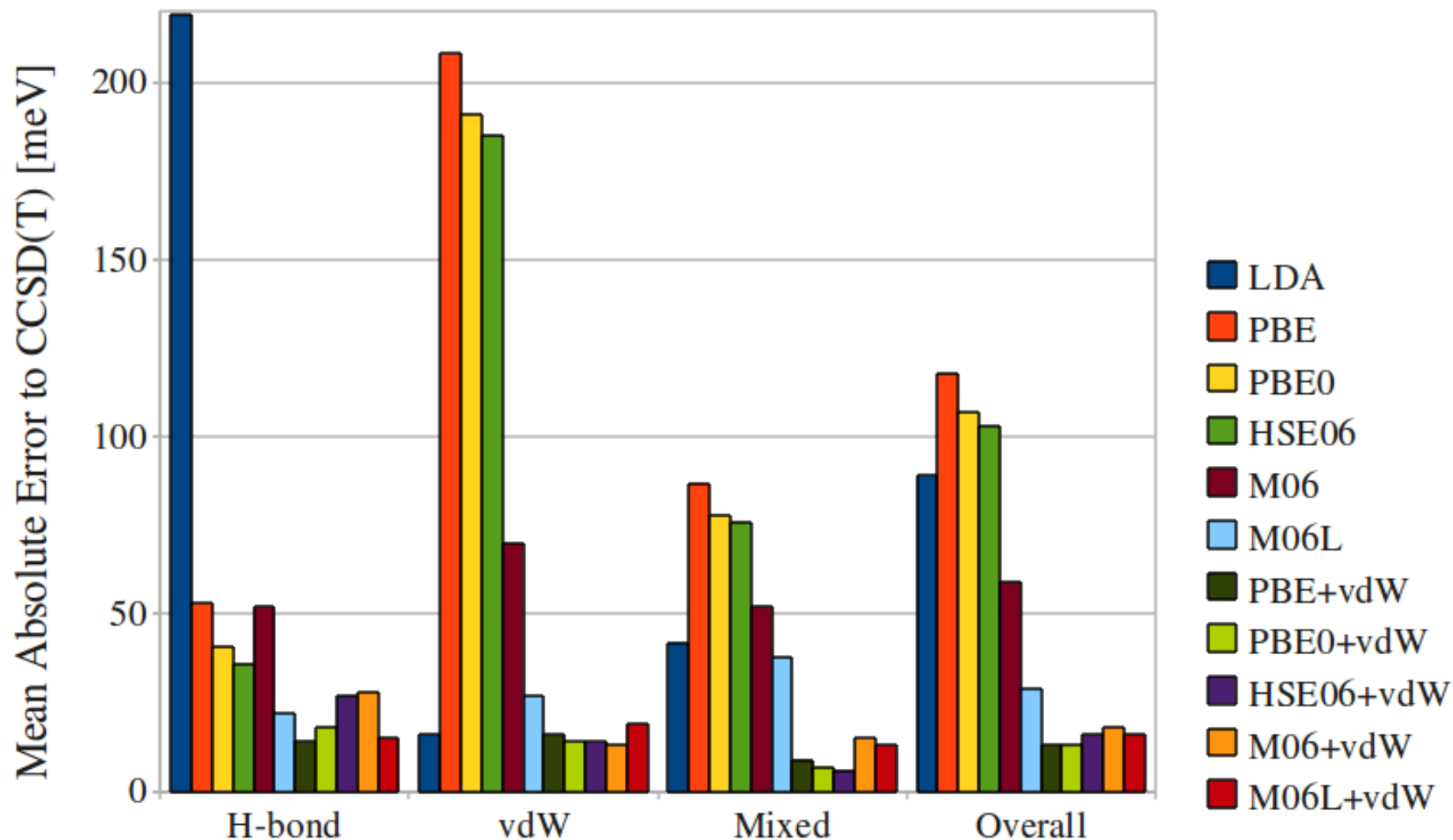


# Performance of TS-vdW method for intermolecular interactions



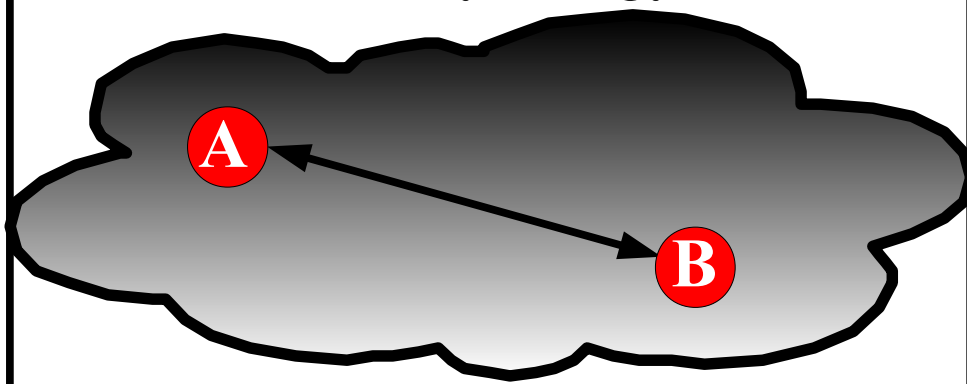
CCSD(T) reference interaction energies: *D. Sherrill et al., JCP (2011).*

# Performance of TS-vdW method with different DFT functionals



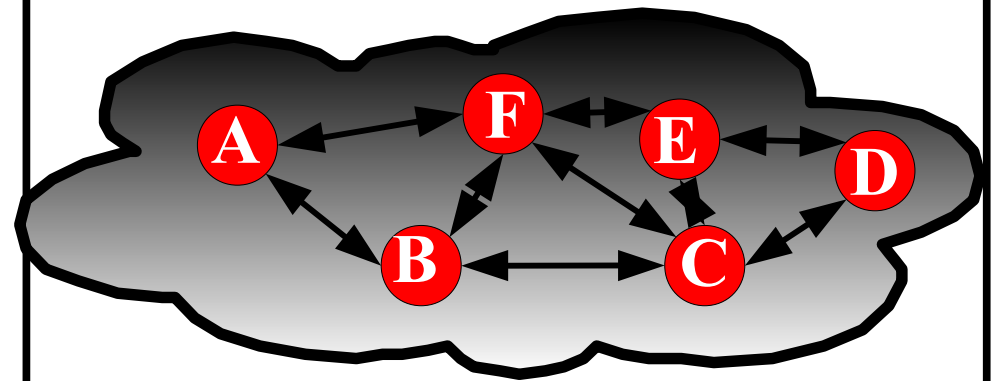
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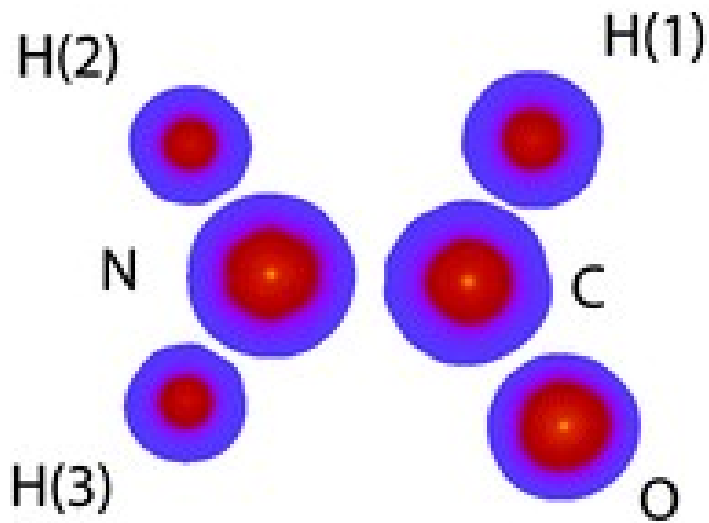


Valid for **small and large  
molecules, insulators, metals,  
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\* A. Tkatchenko, R. A. DiStasio Jr., R. Car, M. Scheffler, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2012).  
Related work: B. J. Berne, G. Martyna, A. Donchev, M. W. Cole, K. Jordan, et al.

# Building up on the TS-vdW method: Quantum harmonic oscillators

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$$\alpha_A(i\omega) = \frac{\alpha_A^0}{1 + (\omega/\omega_A^0)^2}$$

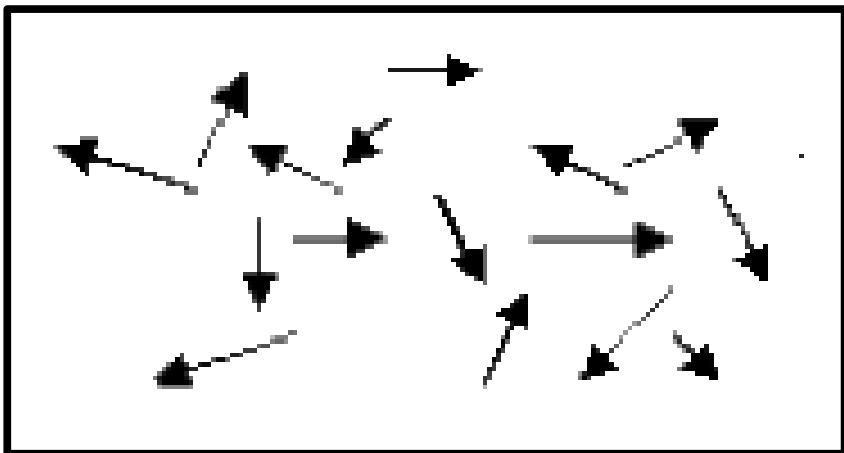
↓  
Polarizability corresponds to a  
Quantum Harmonic Oscillator (QHO)

$$n[\mathbf{r}] = \frac{1}{\pi^{3/2} \mu^3} \exp(-r^2/\mu^2)$$

# Coupled-dipole model: Self-consistent electrostatic screening (SCS)

**From TS-vdW method**

$$\alpha(\mathbf{r}; \omega) = \alpha_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) + \alpha_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) \int d\mathbf{r}' \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \alpha(\mathbf{r}'; \omega)$$

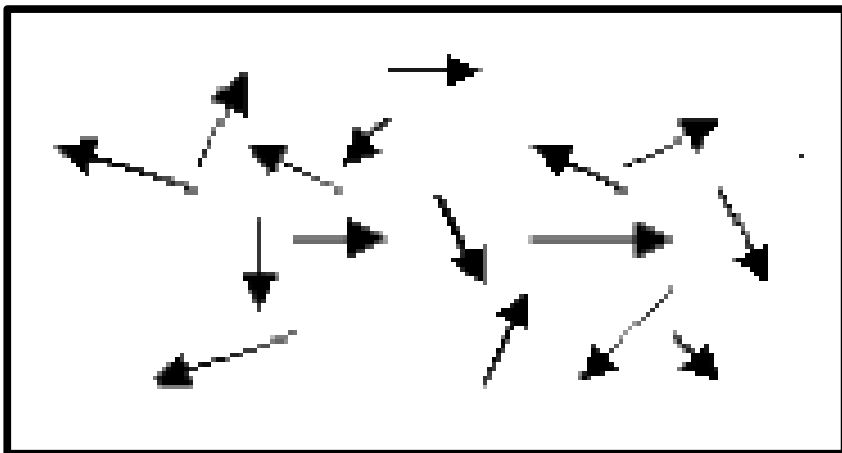


# Coupled-dipole model: Self-consistent electrostatic screening (SCS)

**From TS-vdW method**

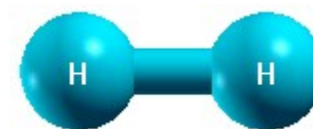
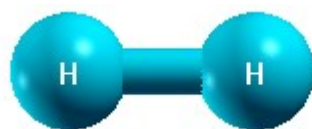
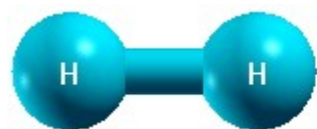
$$\alpha(\mathbf{r}; \omega) = \alpha_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) + \alpha_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) \int d\mathbf{r}' \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \alpha(\mathbf{r}'; \omega)$$

$$\alpha_p(i\omega) = \alpha_p^{\text{TS}}(i\omega) + \alpha_p^{\text{TS}}(i\omega) \sum_{q \neq p}^N \mathcal{T}_{pq} \alpha_q(i\omega)$$



**Short-range modified  
dipole-dipole interaction  
tensor (QHO--QHO)**

# SCS: Polarization and anisotropy in $H_6$

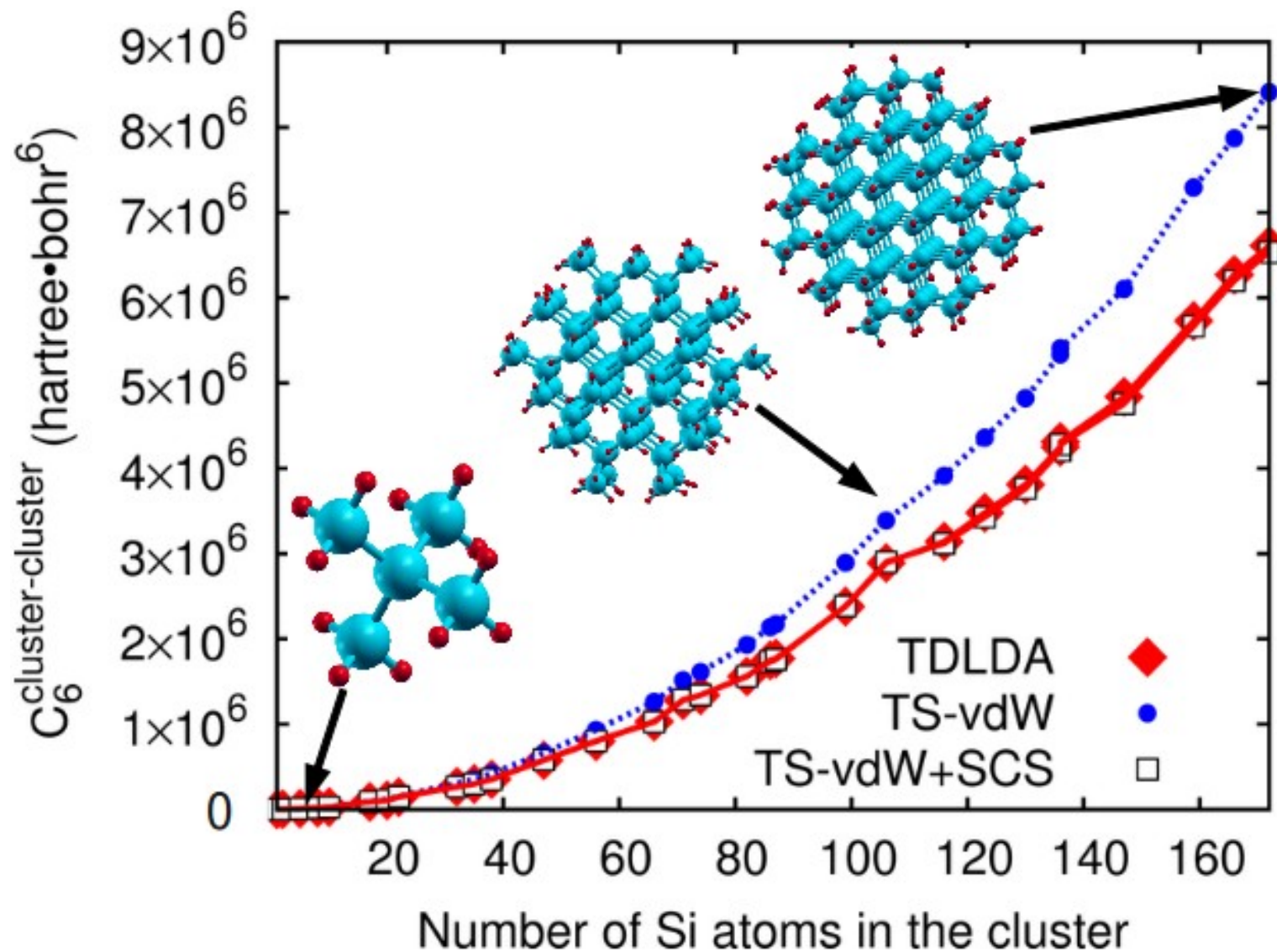


	$C_{6\perp}$	$C_{6\parallel}$	$C_6^{iso}$
TS-vdW:	166	161	165
+SCS:	89	692	223
<b>LR-CCSD:</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>238 (Reference)</b>

$$C_6^{AA} = \frac{3}{\pi} \int [\alpha_A(i\omega)]^2 d\omega$$

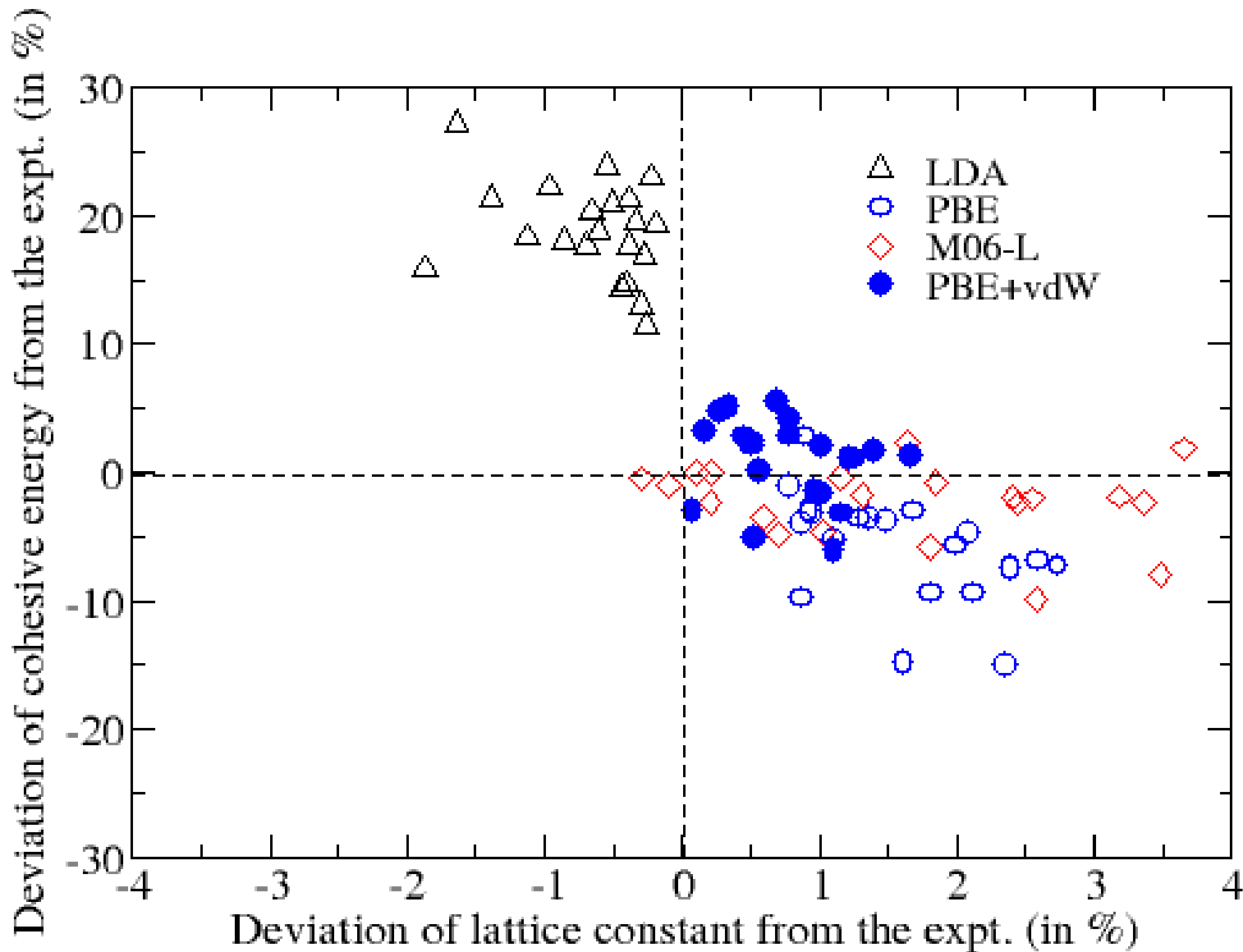
*All values in HartreeBohr<sup>6</sup>*

# SCS: *Depolarization* in silicon clusters

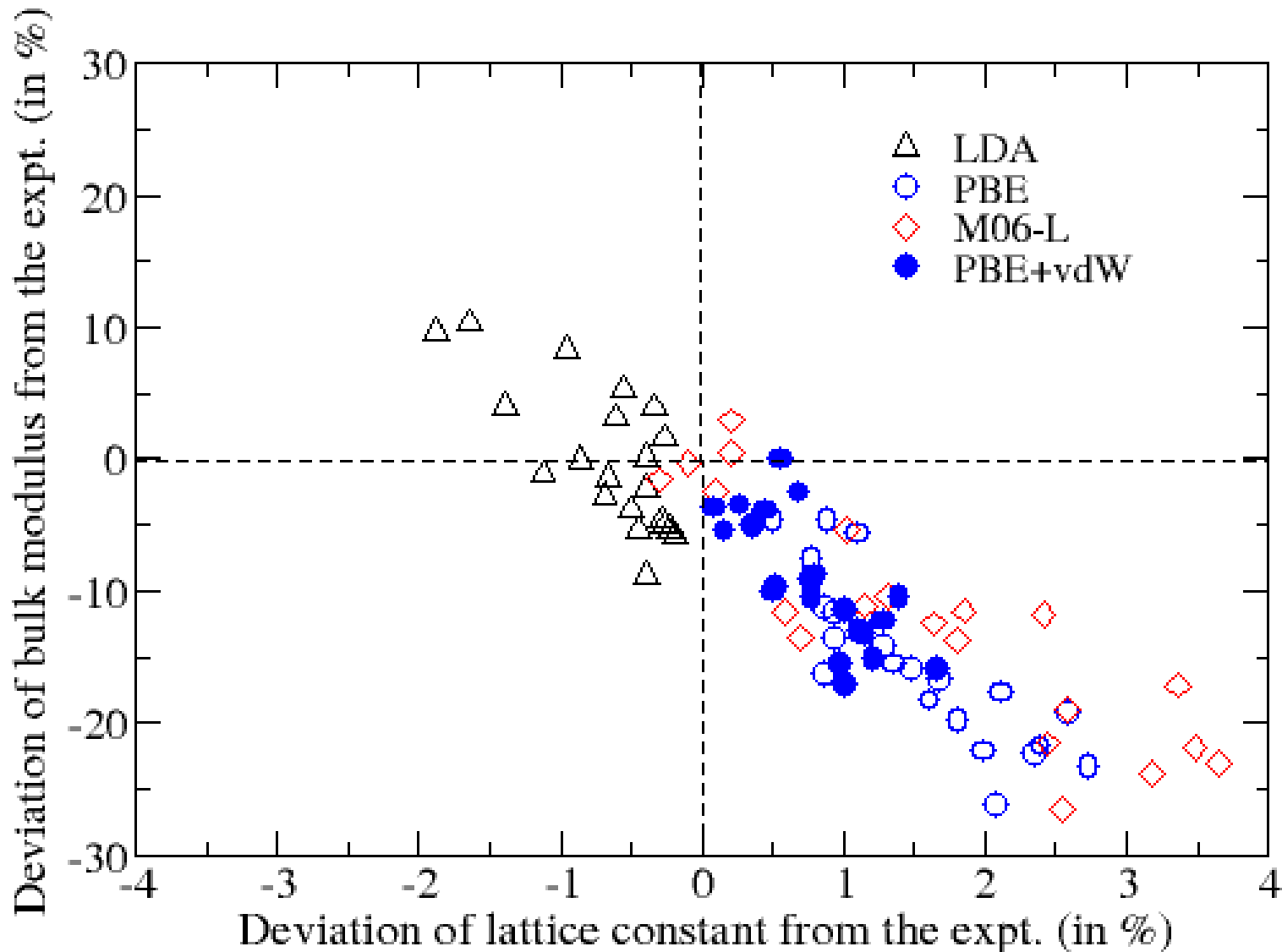


$$C_6^{AA} = \frac{3}{\pi} \int [\alpha_A(i\omega)]^2 d\omega$$

# Van der Waals interactions in defect-free semiconductors



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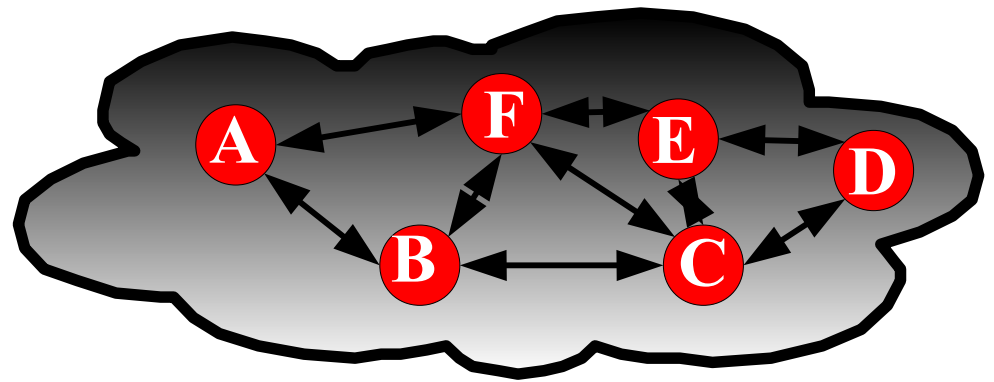


# Defects in semiconductors: Important test systems for vdW



Defects have a significant effect on optical and electrical properties of semiconductors

Van der Waals interactions are intimately related to optical response

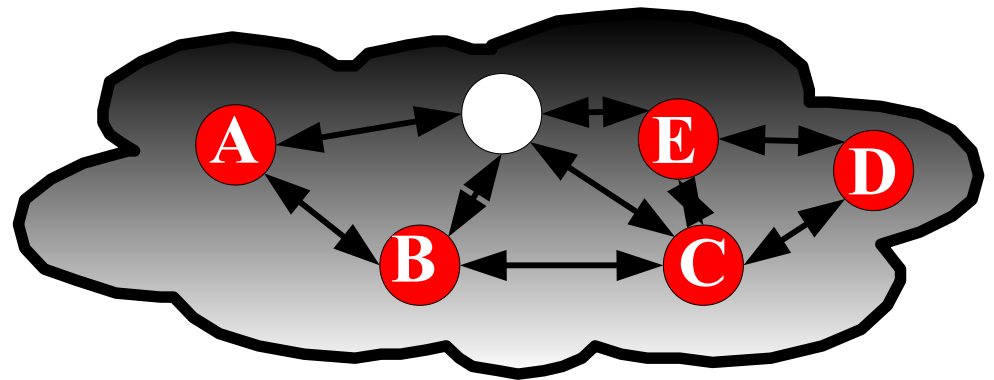


# Defects in semiconductors: Important test systems for vdW



Defects have a significant effect on optical and electrical properties of semiconductors

Modification of (dynamic) electric fields. What is the effect of vdW interactions?

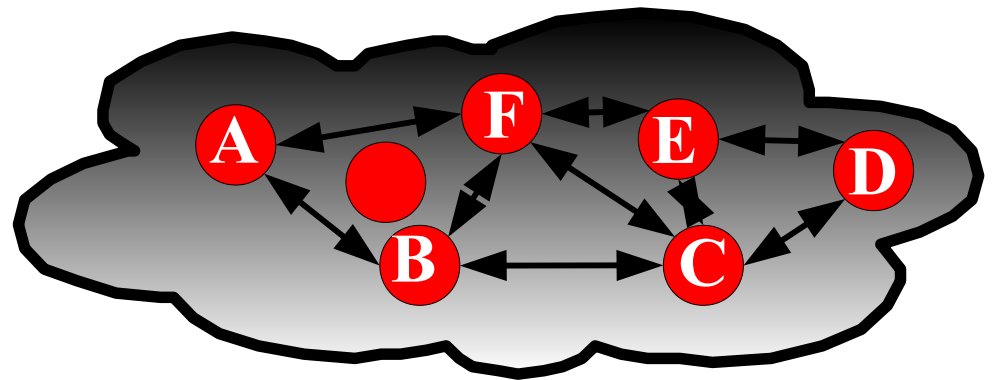


# Defects in semiconductors: Important test systems for vdW



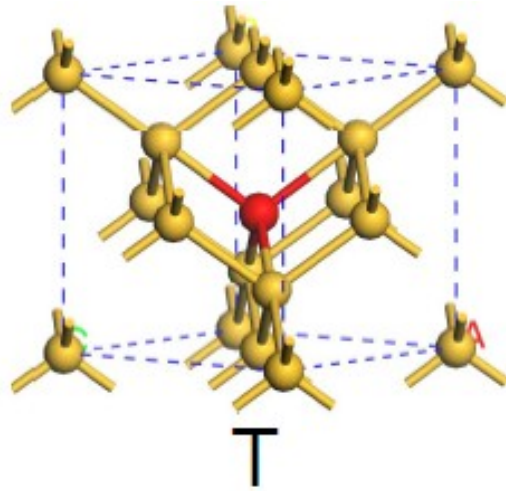
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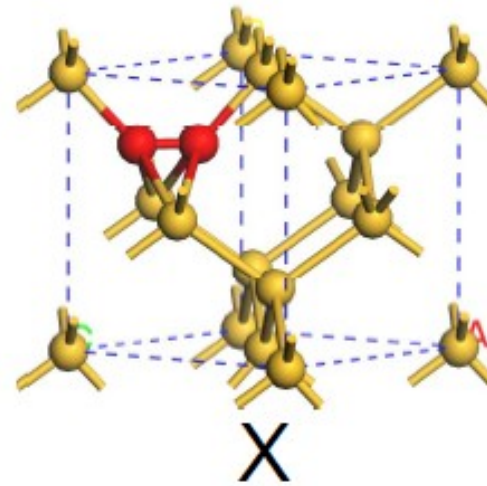


# Formation energy of point defects in silicon: vdW energy contribution

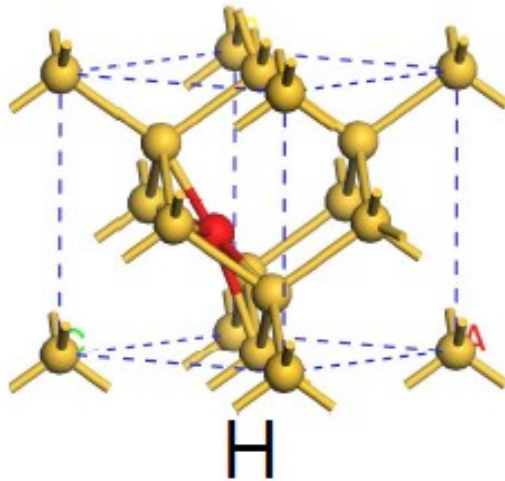
**-0.20  
eV**



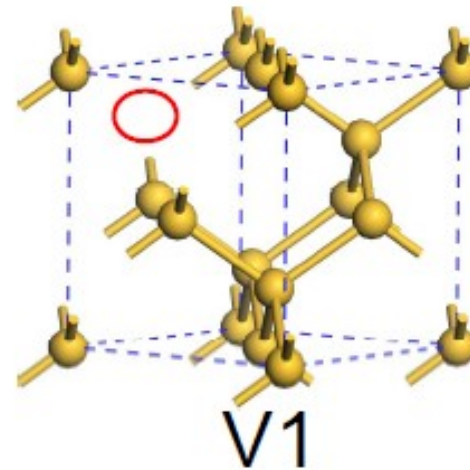
**-0.04  
eV**



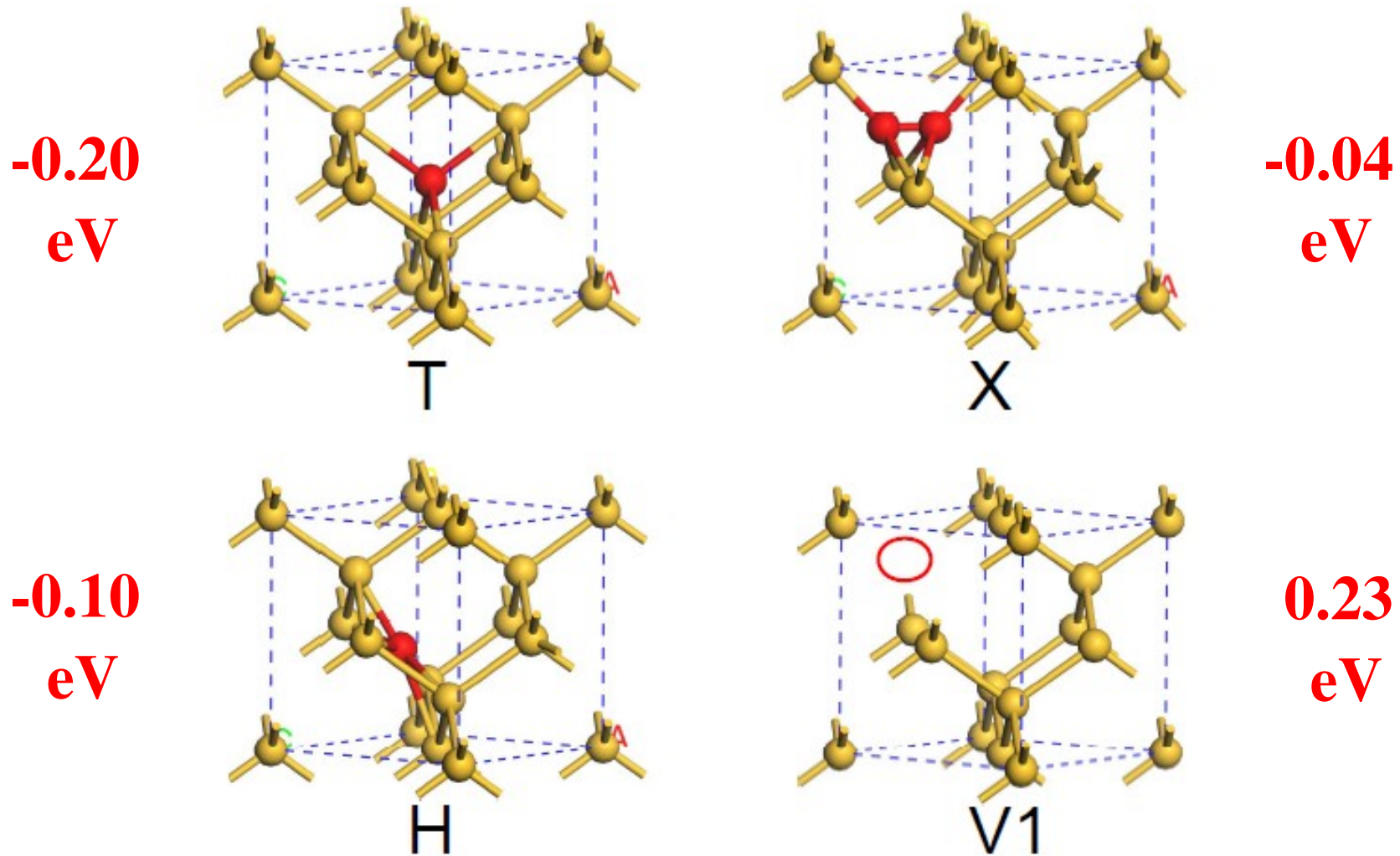
**-0.10  
eV**



**0.23  
eV**

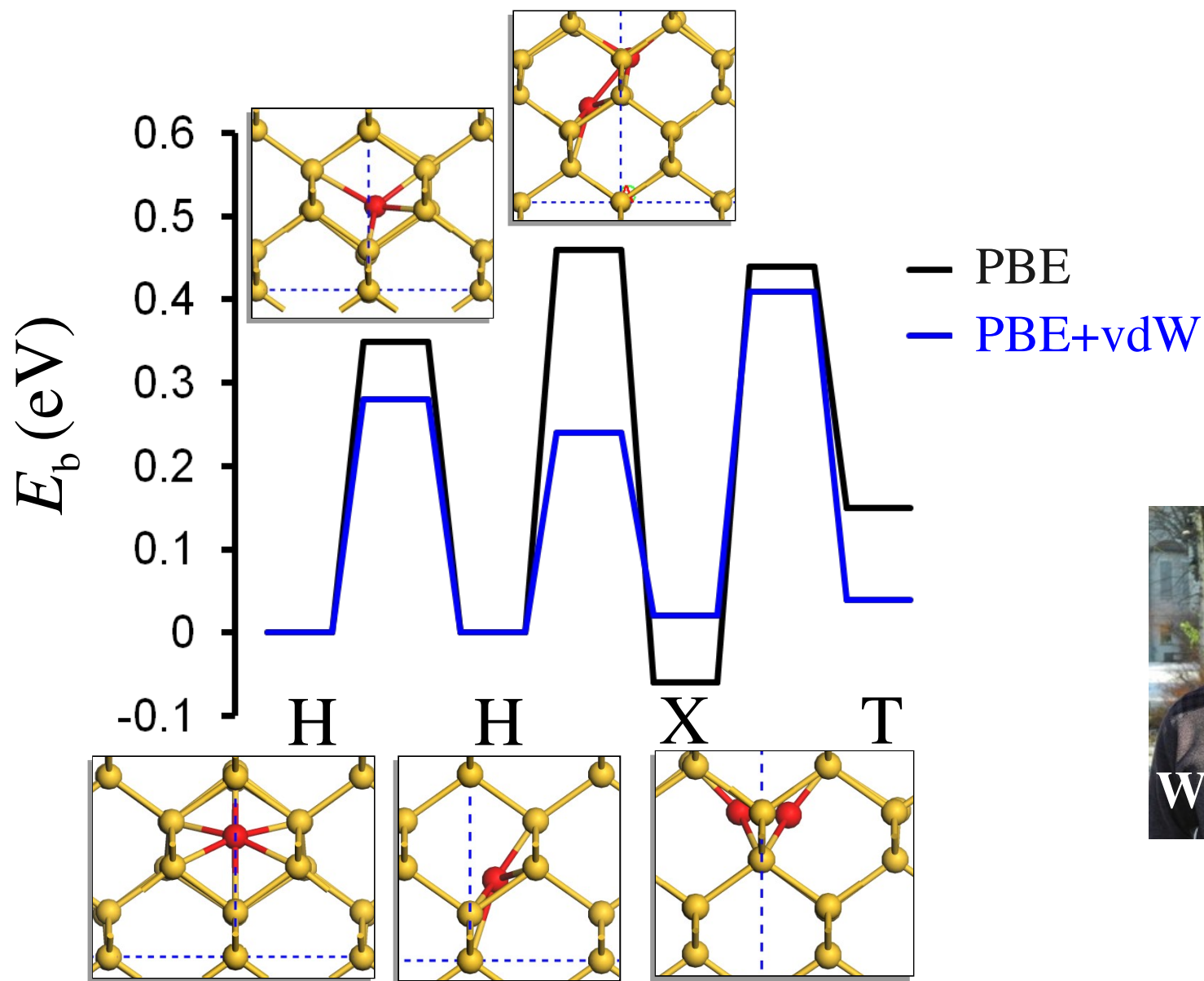


# Formation energy of point defects in silicon: vdW energy contribution

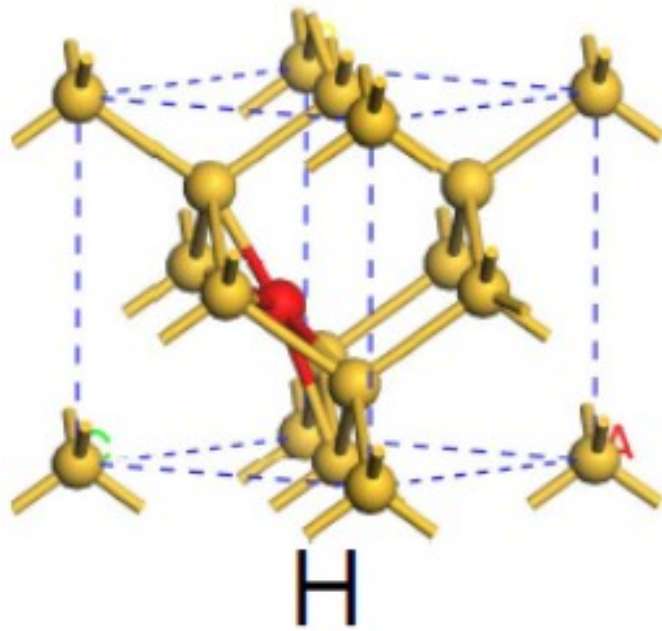


Our HSE+vdW formation energies ( $\sim 4.4$  eV for interstitial and  $\sim 4.7$  eV for vacancy) are in agreement with many-body *GW* calculations and experiments)

# Point defects in silicon: vdW interactions change the diffusion mechanism!

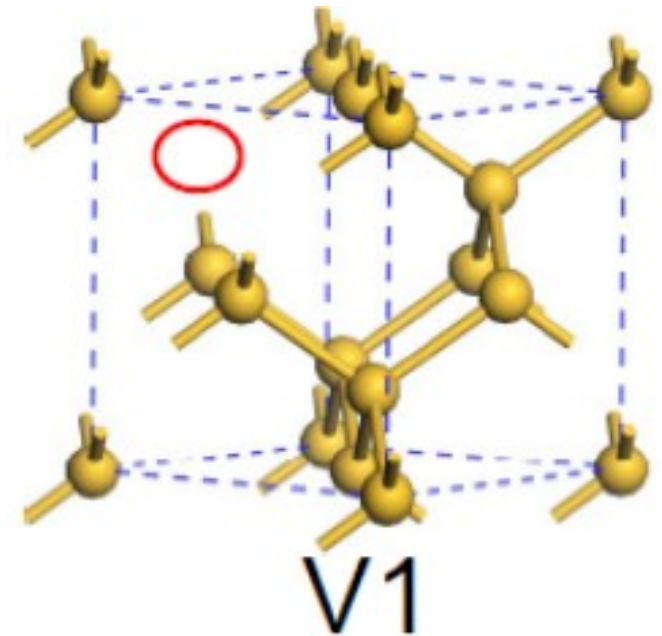


# Mechanism for point defect diffusion: *interstitials vs. vacancies*

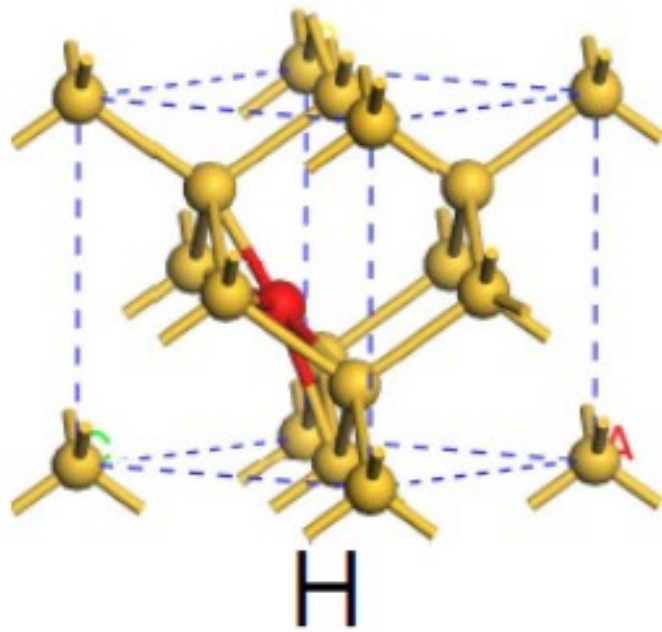


$E_a$

?

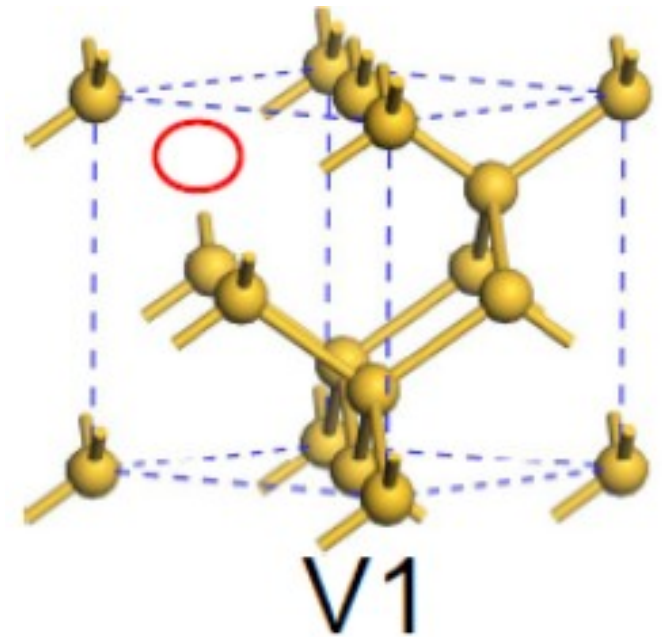


# Mechanism for point defect diffusion: *interstitials vs. vacancies*



$E_a$

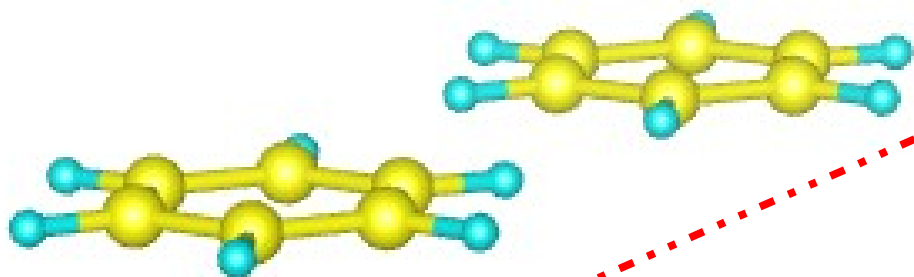
?



	$E_a^{interstitial}$		$E_a^{vacancy}$
HSE	4.82 eV	→ 0.40 eV →	5.18 eV
HSE+vdW	4.59 eV	→ 0.93 eV →	5.52 eV

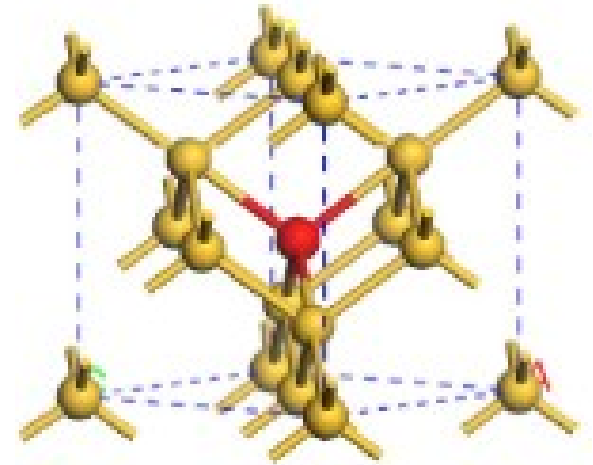
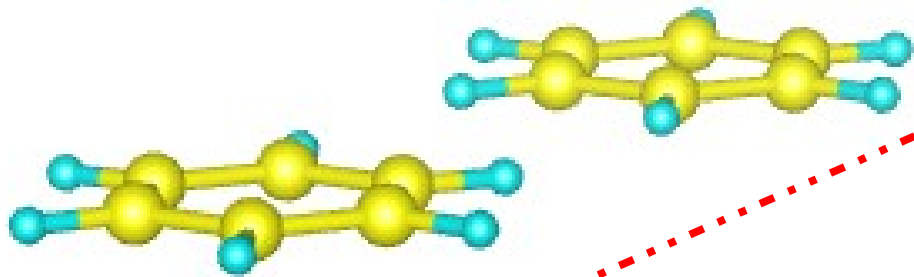
# Summary

$$C_{6,\text{eff}}^{ii} = C_{6,\text{eff}}^{ii}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$

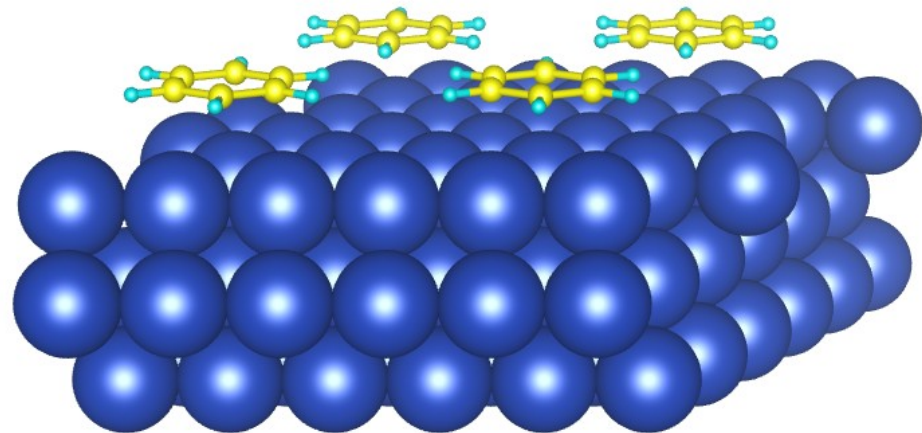
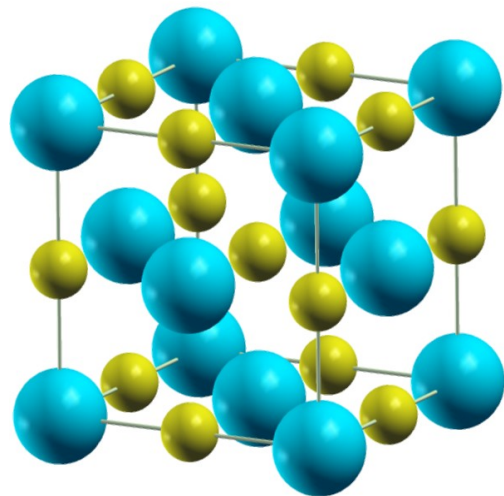


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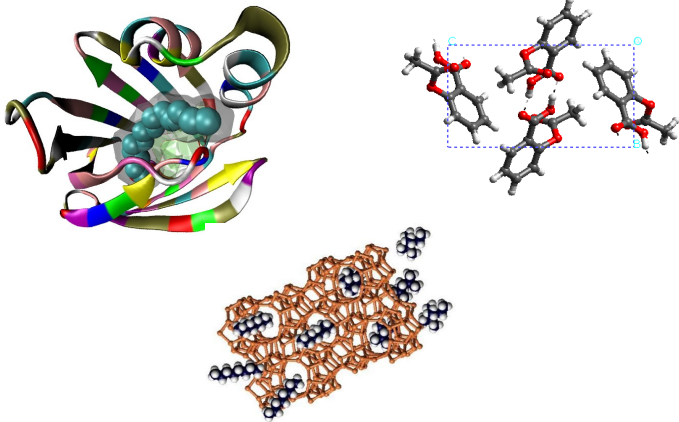
$$C_{6,\text{eff}}^{ii} = C_{6,\text{eff}}^{ii}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$



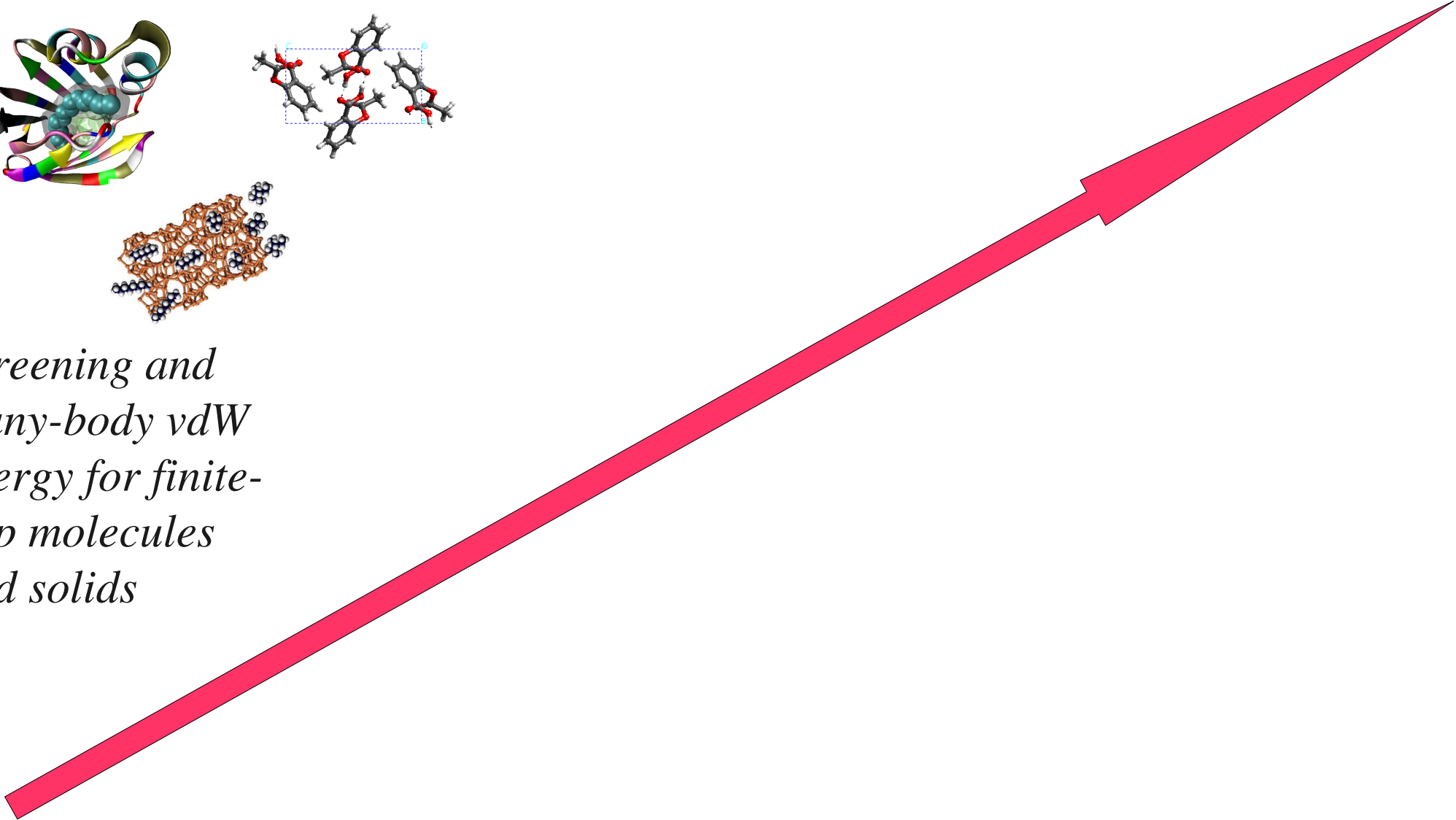
$$\alpha(\mathbf{r}; \omega) = \alpha_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) + \alpha_0(\mathbf{r}; \omega) \int d\mathbf{r}' \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \alpha(\mathbf{r}'; \omega)$$



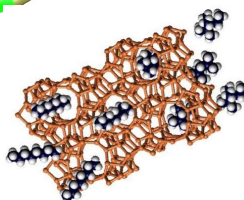
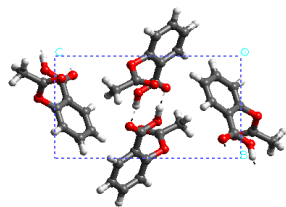
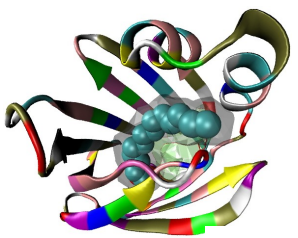
# The roadmap to *First-Principles* Description of vdW Interactions in Complex Materials



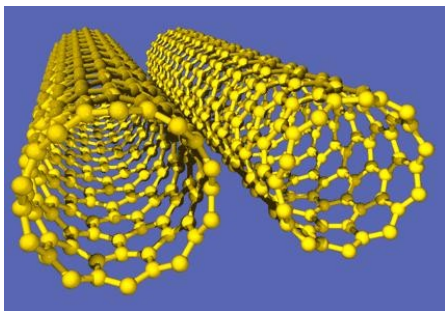
*Screening and many-body vdW energy for finite-gap molecules and solids*



# The roadmap to *First-Principles* Description of vdW Interactions in Complex Materials



*Low-dimensional systems and self-consistency*

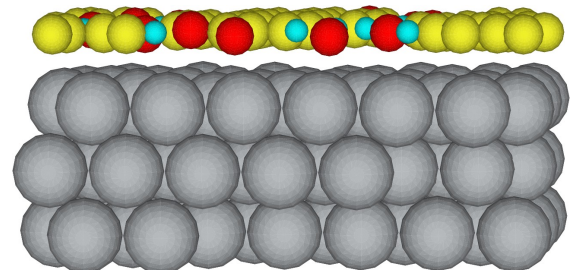


*Higher-order multipole effects; Short-range interaction*

*Screening and many-body vdW energy for finite-gap molecules and solids*

*Hybrid organic/inorganic interfaces*

*Metallic systems*



*Ionic systems*

